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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

M A G A Z I N E

SEPTEMBER 1986



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FEATURES

'One Good Job Deserves Another' Secretary of Labor William E. Brock discusses veterans' employment in this interview.

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Power to the Planets by Walter B. Hendrickson, Jr. With approval of the space station, where does NASA go from here?

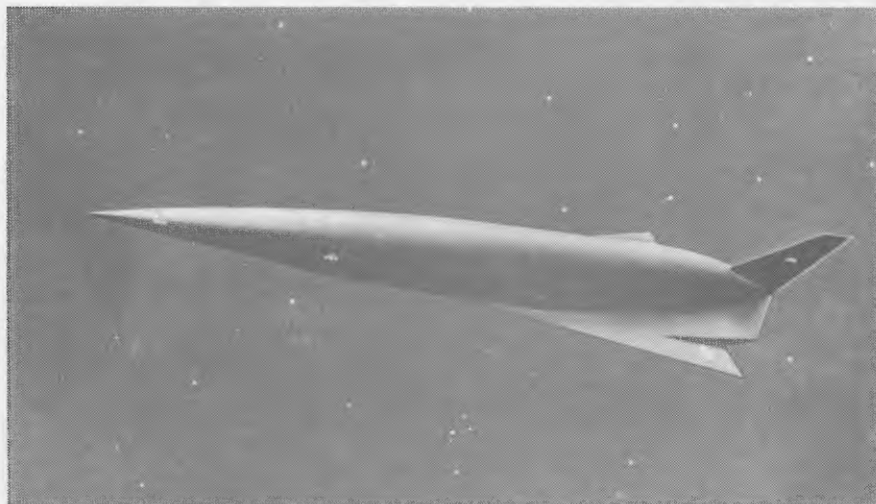
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Wake Remembered by Capt. Kevin K. Krejcarek. A group of survivors visited Wake Island for the first time since fighting there 44 years earlier.

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COVER STORY

In his State of the Union address, President Reagan spoke of the hypersonic Orient Express plane. Howard Silber, who writes on aerospace and military subjects for the Omaha World-Herald, discusses the research being done on this revolutionary aircraft and some of the problems facing its designers. The cover, based on an artist's conception of the plane, was done by Gray Ginther.



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Official publication of the
**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES**

Published monthly except July

VFW OBJECTIVES

To insure the national security through maximum military strength
To speed the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans
To assist the widows and orphans and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans
To promote Americanism through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live

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(ISSN 0161-8598)

Celebration Forgot Vets

The recent Statue of Liberty weekend celebration was an affair without parallel. In general, it was a rousing and stirring tribute to our country and ourselves, be we native born or immigrant. However, in all this great activity, I felt there was something lacking. I am sure I am not the only one who felt this. Now we all know this country is great because of Hollywood, Willie Nelson, Liza Minelli, the Pointer Sisters, Fabian and others. It seems, however, that someone forgot the main theme or purpose of the celebration — Liberty (or Freedom). If one is going to seriously think of the tradition and history of a country's freedom, he must think of those who ensured and preserved that freedom when it was threatened. Yet I saw nothing that could be considered as a tribute to those who fought the wars to preserve our freedom. Certainly telling present-day service personnel we are proud of them, although admirable, is not a tribute to those who did the job. I suggest all VFW Commanders at national, state and local levels take steps to voice our objection to this omission. — *Arnold W. Kopser, 41 Yates Ave., Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601.*

Fly POW/MIA Flag

I take this opportunity to ask each member, family or friend of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to request the governors of their respective states that the POW-MIA flag be flown over the state capitol. Please join in a concerted effort to show our unaccounted for personnel in Southeast Asia that we have not forgotten them. Minnesota already has done this. — *Victor F. Bartholomew, Past Commander, VFW Post 7253, 509 S. Westview Drive, Derby, Kans. 67037.*

AF Wants Help

I am seeking conscientious business people willing to sponsor an incentive contest for Air Force recruiters. Private sector support improves morale, increases productivity and

conserves tax dollars. Past benefactors, ranging from Seiko and Pepsi to Viscount Hotels and Eastern Airlines, have made ours the No. 1 recruiting squadron in the nation. New sponsors are needed to continue that trend. Your only rewards are a lot of gratitude and the knowledge that you have done something really nice for some hard working recruiters. — *Capt. Lawrence K. Hartman, Operations Officer, 3531st USAF Recruiting Squadron, Building 603, Gunter AFB, Ala. 36114-6616.*

Author's Query

I am interested in seeking correspondence with veterans of the 4th Marine Division, 4th Battalion, 14th Marines for the purpose of writing articles and preserving that unit's history. — *Terry D. Wright, 645 West North Street, Piqua, Ohio 45356.*

"Where Is Ours?" He Asks

In response to David Allison, Exton, Pa. (Mail Call, April):

The women who served in Vietnam are seeking a memorial. To this I say, "God bless them, they deserve one." As a former member of the 7th Regt., 3rd Div. (Korea, 1951), this brings up the trivia question: "Where is ours?" I do not intend to take issue with fellow veterans of another era. I seek only parity for the forgotten veterans of the forgotten war. To tickle one's imagination, Vietnam cost 57,702 lives in nearly 12 years, and Korea cost 54,246 lives in three years, yet the Pentagon does not have the decency to call either of us war veterans but participants in a conflict, whatever that means. The bottom line is this: the guy who died on Bunker Hill is just as dead as the guy who died on Omaha Beach. — *John (Archie) Moore, 3535 9th Ave. W. #143, Hibbing, Minn. 55746.*

Recognition Denied

While serving in Korea with the 25th Div., Co. A, 65th Engr., at Heartbreak Ridge, I was struck with an idea which I presented to my lieutenant

and sergeant. The wounded soldiers on the top of the ridge were being carried down on litters to waiting transportation to field hospitals, a slow process through which many lives were lost.

My idea originated from the time when, as a boy, I strung a steel cable across a river, put a basket on it with a friction pulley, and I was able to ride across the river to the opposite bank in no time at all. This idea for bringing the wounded down was put into operation. I was the first to test out the new cable and found that my idea worked with extreme expediency and thereby many more lives were saved than would have been possible otherwise.

I was told next day to wear a clean uniform since Life Magazine was running a picture article with me and my platoon sergeant. However, although it was my idea in the first place, I was completely left out of the picture and article while the "Top Brass" took all the credit.

Further, the Army adapted my idea to transport ammunition to higher levels using electric hoists. Now I am consoled only with the thought that I was instrumental in saving countless lives that otherwise would have been lost. I wonder how many Korean veterans reading this will remember Heartbreak Ridge and the life-saving method which was my idea. — *Elijah Morris, 211 Lark Drive, Paso Robles, Calif. 93446.*

Thanks VFW

My husband, Sidney Elam, and I had the pleasure of meeting Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum when he made his visit to Post 10054 in Pah-rump, Nev. My husband died of a heart attack at Craig, Colo., on April 2. I asked my son to contact Craig Post 4265 Service Officer for the Post to handle the services.

The Post and Ladies Auxiliary did an outstanding job for me and my family. The Service Officer is continuing on my behalf to apply for my benefits. The VFW has really rewarded me for all of the years of hard

work and gained a few new members when they realized what a great outfit we really are. — *Bula Elam, P.O. Box 203, Pahump, Nev. 89041.*

Seeks Help

On Oct. 9, 1986, the United States Readiness Command (formerly the United States Strike Command) will observe its 25th anniversary with a ceremony and other activities at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. To help prepare for this event, we are seeking contact with anyone who can provide photographs, diaries or other memorabilia relating to any operations conducted by USSTRICOM/USREDCOM. We are especially interested in documents/items relating to contingency operations, disaster relief and joint exercises, particularly JTF Leo and Operation Dragon Rouge/Noir in 1964 and disaster relief operations in Central Amer-

ica, Africa and the Caribbean. These items will be used in developing displays/articles relating to this anniversary. All photos will be copied and originals returned. Anyone who can provide information or items should contact USREDCOM/HO, MacDill AFB, FL 33608-6001 — *John W. Partin, Command Historian.*

Camp Tracy

I am seeking information and or photographs of Camp Tracy in Byron, Calif., from anyone who may have been stationed there during WWII. Information will be used in a documentary history book to be written on the Byron Hot Springs. — *D. Joseph, Rt. 1 Box 203, Antioch, Calif. 94509.*

Solution to Problem?

In view of the economic hue and cry of government these days, perhaps

some thought should be given to a cutback on governmental largesse to the following fat cats: megacorporations; foreign aid; immigrant aid to Asians, Cubans, Haitians and others who have never contributed to the welfare of this nation, and politicians. Perhaps it would not be necessary then to cutback and eliminate the benefits to the Heroes of War and the Heels of Peace. — *William H. Kemp, 1200 E. Country Club Rd., Apt. 19, Roswell, N.M. 88201.*

War Brides Query

I am starting work on a book about war brides — women who fell in love with American servicemen during wartime, married them and came to the United States to settle and start new lives. I believe this is a part of

continued on page 6

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Minted from 1772-1821, these silver dollars were the most popular coins of our 13 colonies and were used as legal tender in the USA up until 1857. As collectors and investors turn to American coin classics, these scarce silver dollars are increasingly sought-after.

Struck at the Americas' oldest mint in Mexico City and denominated 8 Reales, these silver dollars were the forerunners of the first U.S. silver dollar minted in 1794 — and served as the most favored trade coin in the world. Yet huge silver melts and the fact that relatively few were saved from destruction make these coins "sleeping" classics. Each silver dollar is a big 39.5 mm in diameter, contains 27.07 grams of .903 pure silver, and each comes with a Certificate of Authenticity attesting to its fine quality and genuine

status. Because the supply was originally discovered in the Far East, genuine "Chinese merchant markings" are often visible and serve to authenticate the coins.

Because of the age and historical significance of these coins, you might expect to pay up to several hundred dollars for one. But while supplies last, they are available on a first-come, first-served basis to collectors and investors at: (#7144)

1 coin \$75; 2 coins \$150;
3 coins \$215; (save \$10);
5 coins \$345 (save \$30);
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MAIL CALL

continued from page 5

our history that has been neglected, and I want to chronicle the stories of these brave women and their husbands for future generations. At present, I am considering a broad, historical scope, and thus would like to find appropriate veterans from America's major conflicts: World War I, World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. Essential to my research is interviewing the war brides themselves and their husbands. If you have a story you would like to share, please contact me. — *Joanne Wilkens, 211 Cambridge Ave., Kensington, Calif. 94708.*

Rally for COLAs

It is outrageous that the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Law blatantly discriminates against retired military and other government employees by denying them a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) and providing COLAs for Social Security annuitants.

Those of us who have spent most of our lives in the service of our country frankly deserve better treatment from our government. I am the executive director of an organization which is doing something about it, the Association for Retirement Equity (ARE). We are dedicated to the belief that "justice withheld is justice denied." ARE was established to regain COLAs for all government retirees (military, civil service, foreign service, railroad, postal and others).

Since many of you fellow members of the VFW are COLA-less victims, as I am, I want to rally your support to our cause. Let your Senators and Representatives know that you believe that military, civil service, foreign service, railroad and postal retirees deserve equal justice under law and that they should have their COLA entitlements restored now. — *Louis G. Fields, Jr., Executive Director, ARE, 499 S. Capitol St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20003.*

Vietnam Reunions Helped

Starting with an idea born out of need and frustration, Larry Horn, a 38-year-old disabled Maine veteran has turned a dream into reality — a registry of Vietnam veterans to make their reunions easier to achieve.

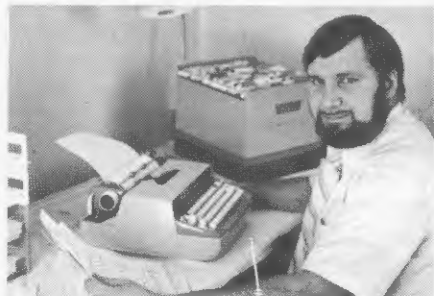
Larry, wounded during the 1968 Tet offensive, started the Vietnam veterans registry last summer.

"After being unemployed for some time, I thought the registry would be the ideal thing to fulfill my desire to work and to serve other veterans of my era," he says.

After attempting to organize a reunion for the 24th Evac. Hospital, he soon learned he was not alone in terms of his frustration concerning reunions for Vietnam veterans.

"I received calls from Vietnam veterans from across the country describing similar problems in organizing reunions," he says.

The major objectives of the registry are to facilitate the location of Vietnam veterans and to serve as a clearing house for all Vietnam veteran reunions.



In the last few months Larry says he received letters from a dozen unit and division associations, but he admits he is not even close to registering even 10% of all associations.

After the registry is well established, it will assist in the creation of memorial funds, promote reunions and conduct surveys to determine the needs of Vietnam veterans.

Answering letters and mailing registration forms, from a small office in his home, near Bridgton, Maine, has almost become a full time job, but Larry says he welcomes the challenge. Over a five-year period, he hopes to process 100,000 reg-

istration forms. His address is RR 1, Box 585 A, Bridgton, Maine 04009.

To guarantee the confidentiality of the registry, Larry has made it impossible for anyone within the registry to sell or transmit for personal gain any information in its possession. Access to the names on file is limited strictly to Vietnam veterans who have registered. No person or group has access to the entire directory and even reunion committees will have to follow a strict set of guidelines.

Registration and inquiries are free to Vietnam veterans, but Larry admits that donations are welcome. Larry and his wife Fran have invested nearly \$1,500 in the registry and they readily admit it has not been easy on their family budget. He is a member of Post 685, Reading, Mass.

Olympia Needs Help

SOS Olympia has been formed to raise money to pay a \$250,000 judgment against the ship resulting from an accident on board the historic vessel last winter.

The Olympia, now berthed in Philadelphia, was Adm. George Dewey's flagship, and at the end of World War I brought the remains of the Unknown Soldier to the U.S. for burial in Arlington National Cemetery.

In the 1950s, a group of Philadelphians saved the ship from being scrapped by the Navy, and it was preserved as a monument. In the 1960s, however, the Navy wanted it returned and scrapped because refurbishing had not been completed and parts that had not been repaired were dangerous.

The VFW's District 1, of the Department of Pennsylvania, won an injunction to prevent the Navy from scrapping the ship, and Judge Leo Weintraub persuaded labor, civic and veterans' organizations to devote time, money and effort to assure the ship's proper display. Some 100,000 tourists visit it each year.

As a result of the recent accident, the Navy threatens to remove the

USS Olympia and the USS Becuna, the submarine famed for its association with Gen. Douglas MacArthur, unless the \$250,000 judgment is paid at once. Navy argument is the loan agreement was broken.

Further information may be obtained from SOS Olympia, Provident National Bank, PO Box 13780, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101.

Scouts Salute VFW Posts

Boy Scout national officials expressed their gratitude recently "to the leadership of all chartered organizations for their devoted and exemplary service through partnership with the BSA." The resolution was passed during the biennial meeting of the National Council held in Louisville, Ky., May 21-23. VFW Posts sponsor some 1,209 Cub Scout packs, Boy Scouts troops, Varsity Scout teams and Explorer posts nationally. Noting that the units are "owned and administered" by the partner organizations and operated as an integral part of their own programs, the BSA said "this unique partnership relationship has contributed significantly to the quality and growth of Scouting throughout the nation."

A First in Health Care

The staff and patients of the Sepulveda, Calif., VA Medical Center Nursing Home Care Units had a treat with the dedication of a TRAM, a spectacular automatic gurney mover, writes Jack Ripley, State VAVS coordinator.

The first of its kind in the field of health care and designed and produced by Nordskog Industries, Inc. of Panorama City, Calif., this battery-powered tram features every safety device, including a flashing yellow light that alerts everyone in its vicinity as it travels through the tunnel system.

A gurney is simply rolled onto the ramp, locked into place and is ready to go. The driver faces the patient at

all times, and requires only one person to transport a patient from one point to another in less than half the time. It is collapsible for easy storage.

In November, 1984, the idea of using some type of powered vehicle for the movement of bed patients around this large medical center began to form, a coordinated effort of the Voluntary Services and the VAVS executive committee.

Jackie Ripley, VAVS representative for the VFW Auxiliary, started the "wheels rolling" by contacting Auxiliary President Marge Ireland, of California, who presented a check for \$2,000 to the Medical Center when she made her official visit. Then Jack Ripley asked District 7, of the Department of California, for the funds to complete the project.

Check With Navy First

Veterans planning to go to Pearl Harbor for the 45th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941, had best check with the Navy before visiting the USS Utah memorial on Ford Island.

Rear Adm. H.F. Boyle, commander of the Pearl Harbor Naval Base, says security measures, reallocation of manpower and transportation have curtailed general visitations to the USS Utah and Ford Island.

Visits he said, are to be arranged on a case-by-case basis. Boyle's address is Box 10, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-5020, and he should be able to provide whatever information is needed by prospective visitors.

Awards Made

Three Posts and their Ladies Auxiliaries have won National Silver Awards of Excellence, and four Posts and their Ladies Auxiliaries have been chosen for National Bronze Awards of Merit for their achievements in Community Activities.

continued on page 13

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Blitz

For Membership



Fall is the season of kickoffs, and September is the month we kickoff the VFW membership drive.

The Blitz is on, and increased membership is the goal! In this game everyone gets to carry the ball.

Membership is the driving force of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. This year is our 31st consecutive year of membership growth. We're past the two million member mark — now let's look ahead to three million. We need to keep every member we have and bring in every eligible we can find. When veterans join the VFW they join the cause which promotes their interest and fights to preserve their benefits.

Help your fellow VFW members and help your fellow veterans. Join the Storm for Norm. Make a run for new membership goals. Your reward will be a stronger, more powerful organization, and to show that you carried the ball while the blitz was on, you will receive a Storm for Norm recruiter pin.



All you have to do is sign up three (3) members or reinstate three (3) former members. The Blitz is on! Join the Storm for Norm team.

LEGISLATIVE

Supreme Court Says "No" to Automatic Budget Cuts: The Supreme Court struck down the crucial element of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings by ruling July 7 that its triggering mechanism was unconstitutional. In a 7 to 2 ruling, the court said the budget cutting law violated the separation-of-powers principle as called for in the U.S. Constitution. Specifically, the court cited the improper vesting of executive branch authority in a legislative branch officer, the comptroller general. The law, enacted last December, sets annual targets for reducing the deficit over a five-year period, ultimately reaching zero in 1991. Three federal government agencies, the Office of Management and Budget, the Congressional Budget Office and the General Accounting Office, which is headed by the comptroller general, were to decide whether Congress had met its responsibility of the yearly target. If not, the General Accounting Office would decide on the size and nature of the across-the-board cuts necessary to bring Congress into compliance. Under the Constitution, Congress is given the power to pass laws to set general policy. The authority to carry out the laws rests with the Executive Branch. The court stated that when Congress placed the responsibility for implementation of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings in the hands of an officer who is subject to removal only by itself, Congress has in effect retained control over the implementation of the law and infringed into an executive function. The court's ruling, however, does leave intact the fallback procedure included in Gramm-Rudman-Hollings because Congress feared there would be a challenge to the new law's constitutionality. Under this procedure, OMB and the CBO would still calculate how spending would have to be cut to meet the target levels, but the House and Senate would have to approve the cuts in a joint resolution. If either the House or Senate refuses to sign it, that would terminate the process. The court delayed effect of its decision for 60 days to give Congress time to respond. Congress made its first response on July 17 by overwhelmingly (339 to 72 in the House and by voice vote in the Senate with no dissent) reinstating the \$11.7 billion in spending cuts for this year that were invalidated by the Supreme Court. Congress must now decide whether to leave the fallback procedure in place or enact a new triggering mechanism for Gramm-Rudman-Hollings. Another alternative would be to eliminate Congressional authority to initiate removal of the comptroller general, the original source of the challenge to Gramm-Rudman-Hollings.

Recent Testimony: Recently appearing before a panel of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, the VFW leveled criticism at the Department of Labor's Employment programs for veterans. The VFW charged that the Assistant Secretary for Veterans Employment and Training (ASVET) has inadequately promoted awareness in the private sector of the concerns of the veteran community. VFW emphasized that the ASVET must contact the governors in service delivery areas to determine whether they have targeted veterans in their planning. VFW recommended that the ASVET

formally request the National Commission for Employment Policy to conduct a study of Vietnam veterans' employment between 1964 and the present, with special emphasis on combat theater, disabled and minority veterans. VFW believes that the ASVET, as the Congressionally-mandated advocate for veterans' employment, should assume a national leadership role in all veterans' employment and training issues. VFW pointed out that the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) is inadequately funded and that at present there is no mechanism to assess the program's successes, failures, highlights and discrepancies. VFW is most concerned. The ASVET, by law, is the national advocate for veterans' employment and training. By proxy the Assistant Secretary of the Employment and Training Administration is the major source of service delivery to veterans through the Employment Service. VFW reviewed the goals, objectives and milestones of each agency. As a result, VFW wrote to the Assistant Secretary of the Employment and Training Administration that "it was apparent that little emphasis was placed upon enhancing services to veterans in the goals and milestones established for ETA." The VFW strongly suggests that ETA include reporting criteria pertaining to veterans in Title IIA and III JTPA that reflects veteran participation in these programs and to provide a mechanism to track actively the services provided to these veteran clients and accurately account for expenditures on their behalf. To VFW knowledge, this has not been done. In accordance with VFW priority and legislative goals, VFW encourages legislative action to correct deficiencies in JTPA and to emphasize veterans' preference, or priority of service, in all JTPA employment and training programs. It is VFW contention that at present JTPA programs conducted in accordance with Title IIA and III are providing minimum services to the nation's veterans. Considering the lack of emphasis placed on veterans' employment and training programs, the provision of inadequate funds and the contingency planning that is being conducted in both the ETA and ASVET offices, VFW contends that the Administration has established as a short-term goal a reduction in staff and programs provided to veterans. The long-term objective may be the elimination of the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Veterans' Employment and Training. Operating under this hypothesis, the VFW will not support any further reduction of service delivery personnel and will continue to fight to ensure that programs funded specifically for veterans receive top priority attention.

SERVICE

VFW on VA Smoking: After a briefing by the VA on proposed changes of its smoking options, the VFW, which has long recognized the dangers of smoking, cautions against expecting smokers to stop

NEWS AFFECTING YOU

practically over night and suggests a VA policy requiring "a phased program for both the increased control and eventual cessation of smoking in work areas and reduction with possible cessation of sales of cigarettes in VA canteens."

Veterans in the Government: Director Constance Horner, of the Office of Personnel Management, has written all personnel directors to improve their agencies' record of hiring veterans, especially the disabled and members of minority groups.

SECURITY

Soviet Outpost at UN: For the Communists, the United Nations has become a useful platform to work against the democratic ideals for which it was founded. This situation is intolerable. It is time Americans told Washington to take action. Eliminate the Soviet outpost and its role in spreading disinformation and distortion about the United States and stop supporting these UN agencies which underwrite Soviet positions and undercut United States policy.

Some 2,600 Communist diplomats are stationed in their New York embassies and consulates and serve on the UN staff. Defecting Soviet UN official Arkady Shevchenko says more than half of them are fulltime spies. All of this is widely known, but what most Americans are unaware of is that the Soviets have gained control of UN agencies.

Several private and governmental United States groups have been looking into Soviet, East German and Cuban penetration of the UN secretariat. At least three agencies of the UN Secretary General have been thoroughly infiltrated by Communists. They now run the UN's Department of Public Information and Conference Services and the UN Library to serve neither the UN nor the Free World but Moscow.

A General Accounting Office report prepared for Sen. Arlen Specter was the first to point out the anti-American bias of the UN's Public Information Bureau. GAO found the department's publications and radio and television broadcasts frequently distort or ignore U.S. positions on key issues. Much more favorably presented were Soviet and Communist Bloc views. More than two million documents are distributed each year by the Public Information Department. The department broadcasts more than 3,000 hours of radio and television videotapes in 25 languages to 167 countries at

the expense of the United States. Soviet and Communist Bloc personnel hold key decision-making positions in the UN secretariat.

A Heritage Foundation study found that Communists hold a monopoly on the Department of Conference Services which control UN publications and its library. By controlling this powerful UN agency, Communists can manipulate the release of UN documents, control the timing of conferences and slant their results to benefit Soviet positions or propaganda while damaging the United States. This UN agency also controls the Dag Hammarskjold Library, which the Soviets have headed since 1964. They use it as a cover for espionage and to spread Soviet disinformation among delegations and diplomatic staffs who are fed heavy doses of the pro-Soviet, anti-American party line.

United States support for these Communist-run departments each year totals \$19 million or a fourth of the UN's Public Information Department's annual budget. The United States pays another \$70 million to support the Soviet-controlled Department of Conference Services and \$3.5 million for the Dag Hammarskjold Library.

Immigration Explosion: The July 4 Statue of Liberty celebration properly paid tribute to the role immigrants to the United States have played in developing the country. Overlooked, however, was the present immigration problem. Last year 1.3 million illegal immigrants were apprehended. Another 600,000 legal immigrants entered the country in the same period. Legal and illegal immigrants will swell the population by 20 million in the next 14 years, it is estimated.

Experts believe that between four and eight million illegal immigrants already are here. Commissioner Alan C. Nelson, of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, says that in one section of the U.S. border with Mexico nearly 1,800 illegals are being caught each month, while other sectors report a 50% rise in arrests. The 5,000-mile border with Canada offers many places to cross. Two-thirds are Canadians. Rest come from Portugal, Iran, India, Pakistan, China and Poland.

Problem is bound to get worse unless Congress recognizes the seriousness and acts. Present immigration laws are 20 years old and are out of touch with the current situation. Bills to change United State immigration law have been languishing since 1981.

Late in 1982 identical bills were introduced in Congress by Sen. Alan K. Simpson and Rep. Romano L. Mazzoli. The Senate passed the bill, but the House has taken no action. Five key provisions are prohibition of knowingly employing illegals, investigation of each new employee's citizenship, expansion of existing "guest worker" farm labor program, a temporary resident status for illegals already here and expansion of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to enforce the new law.

NOW HEAR THIS

continued from page 9

The Silver Awards have gone to 2113, DePere, Wis.; 4484, Rainelle, W.Va., and 6182, Louisville, Ky.

The Bronze Awards were presented to 3243, Fenton, Mich.; 230, Columbia Heights, Minn.; 9759, Loves Park, Ill., and 137, Duluth, Minn. Post and Auxiliary 230 received two Bronze Awards.

Post and Auxiliary 2113 sponsored a Halloween party at which parents were offered child identification services. Post and Auxiliary 4484 conducted relief for victims of West Virginia's floods and distributed more than \$45,000 in aid to at least 4,000 persons. Post and Auxiliary 6182 conducted a crisis nursery program to aid parents with problems with parenthood.

Post and Auxiliary 3243 sponsored weekly dances for teenagers in a safe and pleasant environment. Post and Auxiliary 230's two Bronze Awards were for providing winter survival kits to senior citizens and for placing U.S. Flags along the route of parades held in Columbia Heights. Post and Auxiliary 9759 studied community drug and alcohol abuse, through which local teenagers were informed of its hazards. Post and Auxiliary 137 place a statue of the last Union veteran of the Civil War in a local park.

Commander-in-Chief John S. Staum praised all the winners for their work, which exemplifies the VFW's concern with improving communities where VFW Posts and Auxiliaries are established.

Insurance Hoax

The Veterans Administration is once again warning World War II veterans not to be misled by false information regarding the payment of a special life insurance dividend.

VA Administrator Thomas K. Turnage, responding to a reappearance of a hoax that has plagued the agency for almost 40 years, reiterated that the VA "does not pay divi-

continued on page 14

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NOW HEAR THIS

continued from page 13

dends on lapsed insurance policies."

The hoax, which first surfaced in 1948, is once again making the rounds resulting in literally thousands of inquiries to the VA from all over the country. It is refueled every few years by the mysterious distribution of "applications," often poorly reproduced, and sometimes directed to a non-existent "Capt. Prosser" at the VA Insurance Center in Philadelphia. The forms claim that dividends are available for the asking and promises World War II veterans a dividend based on their military service, "even if they haven't kept their policies in force."

The bogus application also claims that Congress has passed a law authorizing the dividends. There has been no such action nor is there any pending.

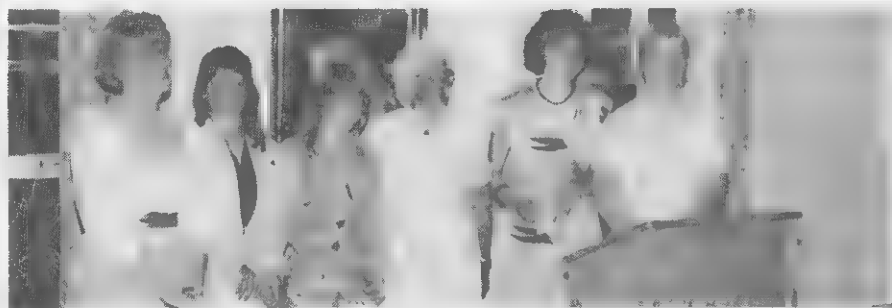
A similar warning was issued by the House Veterans' Affairs Committee last fall and appeared in the December VFW Magazine issue.

Annual dividends on current GI insurance policies are paid by the VA to veterans who continue to pay premiums. Dividend payments are made automatically, usually on the anniversary date of the policy, and no application is needed.

VA Researcher Honored

The Veterans Administration announced that Albert L. Jones, M.D., a physician-scientist at the VA Medical Center in San Francisco, will receive the agency's highest scientific honor, the William S. Middleton Award, named for the VA's chief medical director, 1955-63.

Jones is being recognized for his work on the physiology, cell biology and biochemistry of the liver and gastrointestinal tract. His findings have resulted in the development of new approaches to the diagnosis of liver disease. His research has had an impact on the fields of liver metabolism, intestinal immunology, gerontology, endocrinology and cardiology.



Pictured: (Left to right): Sherry Schalz, Marilyn Wolbeck, Doris Wolbeck, Trustee Arlene McDermott, Lisette Cutcher and Steve Alfrey.

1986 Grads Honored

Awards to recent National Home graduates have been presented.

Lisette Cutcher received a \$3,000 per year MOC scholarship for four years. The Cooties also set aside \$1,000 for each year she completes, and she will receive it upon graduation from her four-year college program. She is enrolled in Bowling Green State University where she will study elementary education and linguistics. She came to the National Home in 1983, sponsored by Post 4422, of Taylor, Mich. Lisette is a graduate of Eaton Rapids, Mich., High School.

Marilyn and Doris Wolbeck, both sisters, each received a two-year scholarship of \$1,500 a year for two years, with a corresponding \$500 set aside for each year completed. Cootie winner Marilyn is enrolled in Lansing Community College and will major in computer sales. Doris, who got her award from the MOCA, will study business and is also enrolled at LCC. The Wolbeck girls came to the National Home in 1979 from Moorehead, Minn., with their mother and brothers and a sister, sponsored by Post 1223. They are both graduates of Eaton Rapids High School.

The Daniel and Nellie Beck Scholarships were awarded to Lisette Cutcher and Doris Wolbeck. The National Home Scholarship Committee annually chooses the Home's two most outstanding scholars for these \$500 gifts.

Special tribute was paid to Sherry Schalz, who received a degree in

gerontology this year, by Sue Shoultz, Home natural family coordinator. Honored also were LCC graduate Corine Wolbeck and Steve Alfrey.

Dignitaries from the VFW, Auxiliary, MOC and MOCA took part in the awards ceremony.

Send for Seals

Because of dramatic increases in fundraising costs, especially postage, the VFW National Home will send its 1986 Seals only to the following: Contributors to the 1985 Seals campaign; Posts; Auxiliaries; Pup Tents; Districts; County Councils; Department; Grands, and Life Members of the VFW National Home.

If you are not on the list, but desire the 1986 Seals, send your name and address immediately to Treasurer, VFW National Home, Eaton Rapids, Mich. 48827-9799.

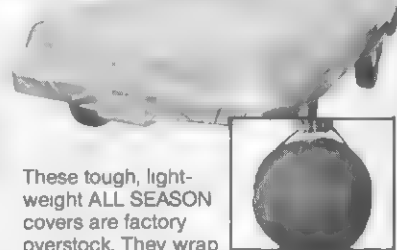
National Home Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the VFW National Home Corporation will be held at the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, Mich., on Oct. 25 at 9 a.m., in accordance with the Home's By-laws to elect two Trustees, one from the 6th District of the VFW National Home (Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana and Missouri) and one from the 10th District of the VFW National Home (Arkansas, Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico). Mail ballots for the election must be received at the VFW National Home no later than 10 a.m., Oct 15, according to Article I, Section 4, Voting.

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Vet Population Aging

A dramatic growth in the population of elderly veterans by the year 2000 is predicted by the Veterans Administration in a recent study as part of its health-care planning.

"While the total veteran population will be on a downward trend, the elderly population of ex-service personnel is projected to grow dramatically during the next 15 years," the study found.

Veterans at least 65 or older are expected to increase from the 1986 total of 5.3 million to 8.9 million by 1999, a 69% rise, according to the VA findings.

Veterans 75 or older now total 1.1 million, but this group will reach 1.5 million by 1990 and rise over the next 15 years to 4.4 million.

Veterans 65 and older now account for 19% of the current veteran population of 27.8 million, but this proportion is expected to rise steadily

over the next 30 years before peaking at 46% by the year 2015, the study predicts.

For the U.S. population as a whole, persons 65 and older comprise 12% of the total, and this percentage is expected to remain constant for another 20 to 25 years before it begins a slow rise.

The study found that World War II veterans, numbering 10.2 million, constitute the largest number of veterans, although 1.6 million have died since the 1980 federal census, but the count is expected to fall to 8.9 million by 1990 and to 5.3 million by the year 2000.

Currently the second largest group of veterans, those who served during the Vietnam Era, total slightly less than 8.3 million and make up 30% of the entire veteran population.

For the next five years, the Vietnam Era veterans will remain at

approximately 8.3 million before they begin a slow decline.

The study predicts that Vietnam Era veterans by 1992 will replace World War II veterans as the largest component of the veteran population.

Only the post-Vietnam Era group of veterans is experiencing any notable gains in numbers. They are former service personnel whose active duty has occurred since May, 1975, and total nearly 2.2 million, or 7.8% of the total veteran population.

They are expected to become the largest sub-group of veterans by 2009, when these 7.1 million veterans will comprise more than a third of the living veterans.

According to the study's findings, the decline in the number of veterans will not be distributed evenly

continued on page 52

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Secretary of Labor William E. Brock

'ONE GOOD JOB DESERVES ANOTHER'

The first Monday in September is Labor Day when Americans enjoy the summer's last long weekend. It is also a time when many pause to reflect on the nation's economy and the effect it has on the job picture, especially on veterans' employment. In this interview, Secretary of Labor William E. Brock, a three-year veteran of the Navy, reviews improvements made in this area in recent years and assesses opportunities for veterans in the future.



In your opinion, what has been accomplished to enhance employment opportunities in the labor market during the Reagan Administration?

A

I'm very proud of what the Reagan Administration has done to enhance the employment opportunities of all Americans, especially veterans. The veterans' unemployment rate has gone down from a high of over 12% to about 6% in just a few years. This Administration has highlighted its commitment to promoting job opportunities for veterans through the creation of the Committee for Employer Support of Veterans Employment at the Veterans Administration and an agency within the Labor Department completely dedicated to veterans' employment and training, the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, headed by Assistant Secretary Don Shasteen.

One success has been the recently extended Veterans Job Training Act, which is administered jointly by the Labor Department and the VA. The program has paid employers half the training wages of more than 40,000 long-term unemployed Korean War and Vietnam Era veterans in permanent jobs in growth industries. Eligible veterans may apply for the program until Jan. 31, 1987.

The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) is the cornerstone of this Administration's belief that employment and training programs should meet local needs. Veterans' programs under JTPA provide services designed to enhance the employability of service-connected disabled veterans, Vietnam Era veterans and recently separated veterans. The veterans' program dollars are particularly effective because we require grantees to match those dollars with other funds or in-kind services. More than 40,000 veterans are served each year, with actual job placements exceeding 10,000 a year.

On the whole, I would say that all our efforts, plus our outreach and public information program, fostered more job opportunities for veterans. We believe, as the VFW does, that "one good job deserves another."

Q

The Bureau of Labor Statistics forecasts that high technology industries will generate 1.7 million new jobs by 1995. Will veterans be filling these new jobs, and what programs are being developed to assist those workers who are displaced as a result of this high technology trend?

A

Title III of JTPA is explicitly focused on providing assistance to workers displaced by technological change. Moreover, our veterans' employment and training programs under Title IV-C of the act will provide the training needed to enable veterans to qualify for jobs in the high technology industries.

Q

What will be the ten fastest growing occupations? Which occupations do you predict will lose the most jobs?



A

Almost half the 20 fastest growing occupations are in the computer or health field, which will continue to be among those with the most growth. On the other hand, many of the declining occupations are in the apparel and textile industries, both of which have suffered losses because of foreign competition and technological improvements.

The ten fastest declining occupations (in terms of percent decline in employment) between 1984 and 1995 are expected to be stenographers; shoe sewing machine operators and tenders; railroad brake, signal, and switch operators; rail car repairers; furnace, kiln, or kettle operators and tenders; shoe and leather workers and repairers, precision; private household workers; station installers and repairers, telephone; sewing machine operators, garment; and textile machine operators, tenders setters, and set-up operators, winding.

Q

The Department of Labor's Employment Service has stated that its responsibility is to "identify only the best qualified candidates and to match them to a job." Those who are not job ready are identified and an attempt is made to refer them to another agency. Precisely what are these other agencies that the hard-core unemployed are referred to, and what services do they provide?

A

State Employment Service Agencies identify and refer the best available applicants for each job order. Within available resources, they also provide referral services which will assist or allow individuals to participate more fully in the labor market. These referral



services make available to the applicants community services from a wide range of organizations. Such community services may include vocational rehabilitation, vocational and employment training, supportive services such as daycare and transportation, medical services and veterans' services. Specific agencies may include JTPA service deliverers, Social Security agencies, veterans' organizations, adult education and similar community groups.

Q

How many clients has the Employment Service placed in the past program year, and what percentage were veterans? What priorities have you established for enhancing the Employment Service?

A

During Program Year 1984, from July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985, the state public employment service agencies placed 3,480,000 persons in jobs. Of these, 13.7% (477,000) were veterans, including 229,000 Vietnam veterans and 40,000 disabled veterans. Furthermore, veterans constituted 17.6% of those persons who received some reportable service from the state public employment service agencies.

Q

We have heard that JTPA's budget has been targeted for reduction. What percentage of JTPA services are provided to veterans and what effort is the Department of Labor exerting to ensure that adequate training and placement services are provided to hard-core unemployed veterans?

A

The JTPA budget request reflected only a slight reduction. We view this as a sign of recognition of the program's successes and accomplishments. Our reporting system does not provide information on the proportion of JTPA services being provided to veterans, but we project that it is substantial. Veterans' representatives sit on local private industry councils and on the State Job Training Coordinating Councils. Veterans are specifically identified as a group with barriers to employment under the 10% "window" for noneconomically disadvantaged persons under Title II-A.

Q

It has been implied that JTPA is serving only 2% of the eligible targeted population and that the program places only the most job ready applicants. Is this true?

A

The total population eligible for JTPA is quite large, but the program effectively serves as many persons as budget resources will allow. This amounts to well over two million persons per year under the various JTPA titles.

Although the veterans' programs under Title IV-C serve only a small portion of JTPA participants, it obtains an approximately equal match in Title II-A funds for services above and beyond those already being provided. Approximately 40,000 veterans are served through this process each program year. Many Title IV-C projects emphasize particularly hard to place veterans, such as the severely disabled, the homeless and minorities.

Q

JTPA contains provisions to establish pilot programs to meet the civilian manpower needs on military installations and in the private sector. Do the Department of Labor and the Department of Defense currently have plans to meet these requirements?

A

The Department has been meeting with Department of Defense officials during the past several weeks in order to develop such plans. Additionally, we view military installations as desirable sites for young people to obtain training, exposure to the world of work and work experience.

Q

Section 2012, Title 38 U.S. Code requires that a business contracting with the United States take affirmative action to employ and promote qualified special disabled veterans

and Vietnam Era veterans. How is this working? What is being done to improve job opportunities with federal contractors?

A

There is always room for improvement in any program. In this one it is felt that more information needs to be distributed to federal contractors to keep them aware of their obligations. To this end, as well as to improve the availability of job openings for covered veterans, we have started several activities. One of them is a grant to the Alabama Employment Security Commission to provide listings of federal contract awards to all the other State Employment Security Agencies on an almost daily basis. The state agencies then contact the federal contractors, by letter or visit, to explain obligations and offer assistance in filling job openings. This effort is under the administration of Assistant Secretary Donald Shasteen. In addition, we are strongly encouraging the state employment security system to increase its veterans referrals and placements in jobs listed by federal contractors by 25% over last year's accomplishments.

To further improve awareness of requirements, Don has sent letters to both agency heads and procurement officers of all cabinet departments, independent federal establishments and government corporations which award federal contracts. We hope this activity will boost veterans' placement in the job opportunities generated.

Q

Approximately 40% of our nation's disabled veterans are unemployed. Is there a specific Department of Labor program that targets the training and placement needs of disabled veterans, and what are you doing to provide them incentives to return to the workforce?

A

I'm sure you are aware we have the Disabled Veteran Outreach Program in place throughout the nationwide public employment service system. This program was established as a permanent formula grant program in the Department of Labor by the Veterans' Rehabilitation and Education Amendments of 1980 (Public Law 96-466). Its major objective is to locate and help find suitable employment and training for jobless disabled veterans and also Vietnam Era veterans. From July 1, 1984, through June 30, 1985, program specialists placed in jobs 153,823 veterans, 78,754 Vietnam Era veterans and 13,155 disabled veterans. Those specialists are state employees funded through Department of Labor grant agreements with the 52 State Job Services. In addition, the State Job Service local offices are required by law and federal regulations to give top priority to special disabled veterans in making refer-



als to job openings listed by federal contractors. The results in Program Year 1984 of these efforts were 2,088 special disabled veterans placed in federal contractor jobs out of 5,248 such veterans referred. That's a placement rate of almost 40%, which is very good.

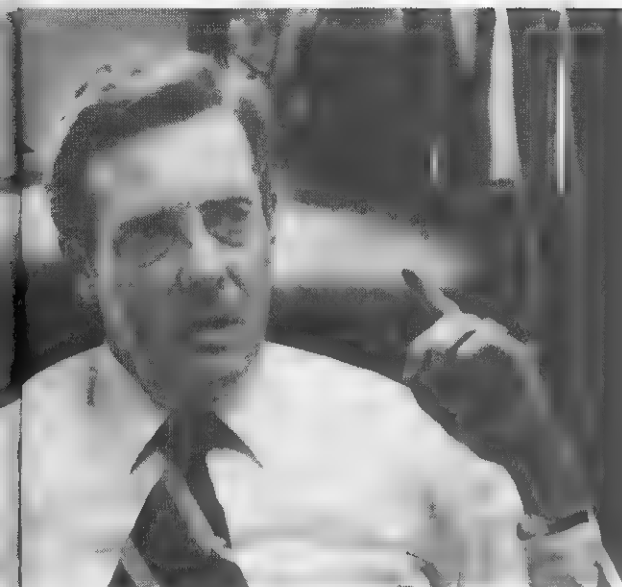
In regard to targeting the special employment and training needs of disabled veterans, our major effort is Title IV-C under JTPA. Service-connected disabled veterans are one of the target groups of veterans specified in the legislation, along with Vietnam Era and recently separated veterans. Moreover, we have funded several projects out of the Secretary's discretionary account aimed at serving disabled veterans.

Q

Considerable publicity has been given to the lack of preparation for the civilian job market that confronts today's recently discharged servicemen. Are there Department of Labor programs designed to increase the marketability of these veterans?

A

Our most ambitious program in that regard has just been developed. We are in the process of implementing a comprehensive briefing curriculum to be utilized at all major military separation centers. The briefings will provide soon-to-be released personnel with advice and assistance in obtaining employment or training as well as information about other veterans' rights and benefits that will help in the transition from military to civilian life. We received valuable help and cooperation from the Department of Defense, the Veterans Administration, Office of Personnel Management, the North Carolina Job Service and veterans' organizations in



developing this program. We hope to have the briefing material printed and distributed and appropriate instructions issued by both our Department and the Department of Defense. Marketability of veterans is also considerably aided by the cooperative agreements we have with the various branches of military service. Those agreements are aimed at making occupational skills gained in the military more marketable by linking in-service training to the requirements of formal apprenticeship programs.

Q

Though our military has become more technical in nature, requiring considerable education and training, unions have been reluctant to recognize military skills for apprenticeship or licensing purposes. What are you doing to promote the recognition of military skills by private employers and unions?

A

As Secretary of Labor, I have formal agreements with the Secretaries of the Army and Navy and the Commandant of the Marine Corps that enable members of these branches of the Armed Forces to take in-service training leading to completion of formal apprenticeship programs. The apprenticeship programs are registered with the Employment and Training Administration's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training and are patterned after those in private industry in nationally recognized apprenticeable occupations. Completion of an in-service program can qualify an ex-servicemember for a journeyman-level rating in an equivalent civilian job. Military personnel who leave the services, prior to completion of apprenticeships can

obtain records that are acceptable in private industry as proof of credit toward completion of the apprenticeship training. At the end of FY 1985, there were 50,276 apprentices registered in programs sponsored by the Armed Forces in the National Apprenticeship System. In addition, the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training gives priority to helping veterans, especially Vietnam Era veterans, gain entry into apprenticeship programs. All programs registered with the Bureau of Apprenticeship Councils meet Veterans Administration criteria for training establishments, thereby making enrolled veterans eligible for VA educational assistance allowances.

Q

What impact will Gramm-Rudman-Hollings have on employment and training services currently provided to veterans?

A

As I mentioned at the Feb. 20 hearing before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, HHS and Education, the initial overall effect of Gramm-Rudman-Hollings on the Department of Labor has not been intolerable. However, there will be a reduction in funding for the Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program and the Local Veterans' Employment Representative program for Fiscal Year 1986 from almost \$120 million as previously requested to about \$115 million. This funding level allows for 1,894 Disabled Veteran Outreach Program specialists and 1,379 Local Veterans Employment Representative staff. I do not project any significant change in the capability of the State employment service system to provide services to veterans due to this funding reduction. All of the employment service staff are required by law and regulation to ensure that veterans are given priority services. In terms of the effect of funding reductions on the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, we feel that the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training had sufficient foresight to minimize adverse effects. While there will be a need to curtail expenditures such as travel funds, there appears to have been enough prior planning to keep hiring at a level which will not require involuntary separations of staff or furloughs without pay.

In addition, we plan to keep the dollar amount of funds available to the states at relatively the same levels for awarding of grants under Title IV-C of the Job Training Partnership Act competitive grant process. Thus, employment and training services provided to veterans under competitive grants will remain about the same. However, there will be a reduction in the amount of Title IV-C funds available for our discretionary funding of veterans' projects with national implications.

continued on page 55

THE ORIENT EXPRESS

By Howard Silber

The hypersonic airplane referred to by President Reagan in his 1986 State of the Union address as the "Orient Express" might well be whisking travelers from New York to Japan or Australia in two hours not very long after the dawn of the 21st Century.

Even before 2000, some versions of the seemingly way-out craft, dubbed the National Aerospace Plane by official Washington, could be committed to military operations.

The incredibly fast and high-flying craft could be conducting U.S. Air Force missions as a manned reconnaissance vehicle. Other versions could be serving as Air Force and Navy fighter planes. A Strategic Air Command bomber that could stand alert in orbit might be in a development stage.

Two people who are close to the project, Air Force Brig. Gen. Eric Nelson and scientist C. Ronald Lowry, agree that a prototype of a plane capable of traveling at least six times and possibly 12 times faster than the supersonic Concorde airliner and cruising at altitudes of several hundred thousand feet could be flying less than a decade from now.

The technology for the plane seems to be within reach, said Nelson, who is director of plans of the Air Force Systems Command, the research and development arm of that service.

"Most of the things we are hoping to be able to do have been done, but only in laboratory scale," Nelson said.

"The physics appear to be done. Now it's a matter of engineering," he said. Engineering development is scheduled to be started this year.

The program, which is being han-

dled by the Systems Command, is involved with two rather closely related concepts. One is the plane that would zoom to very high altitudes and travel considerably faster than contemporary supersonic aircraft.

This could be developed into an Orient Express family of passenger and cargo planes as well as purely military craft.

The other thrust is toward a vehicle that would use its own power to climb into orbit. As needed, it would de-orbit and inject itself back into orbit.

That capability could be very valuable because a plane would consume very little fuel while in orbit, Nelson said. The orbiting vehicle would take over satellite-sowing and other missions performed by the Space Shuttle and could engage in military missions. It would be more efficient and probably cheaper than the shuttle, Nelson said.

Those potential attributes, he said, have caught the interest of Lt. Gen. James Abrahamson, who is in charge of President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative, popularly called Star Wars.

As a result, the development of the aerospace plane could be linked closely with the space-based weapons program. Or, if the Reagan space defense plan fails to obtain sufficient public and Congressional support, the hypersonic plane projects probably would proceed anyway.

Unlike the Space Shuttle, both types of planes would be designed to power themselves rather than depend on rocket boosters that would separate from the vehicle early in flight. The integrated propulsion system would be less dangerous and much cheaper, Nelson said.

Both would use a runway and take off from a standing start. Economic and proprietary considerations and some difficult legal barriers likely will dictate the primacy of the military-use plane, Nelson and Lowry said.

In large part, the military priority already has been established. The aerospace plane program has been on the move for two years. To date, the Defense Department has funded 80% of the work, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, which is primarily interested in civilian applications, has put up the rest.

"That pretty much tells the story," said Lowry, vice president for research and technology of the Aerospace Industries Association, an umbrella organization of about 50 of the largest aircraft, engine and weapons makers.

Cost, which is expected to run to many billions of dollars, stands in the way of a Boeing, McDonnell Douglas or Lockheed moving ahead on its own with more than the most rudimentary work on a commercial aerospace liner. Several companies have studied an aerospace plane independently. The work has been very preliminary.

"Too many dollars would be needed for a full-scale program. They'd have to bet the entire company on its success," said David Schillerstrom, an association spokesman.

Nor is it likely that a consortium of companies could tackle such a commercial project. "That would be difficult given the history of our anti-trust laws," Lowry said. And aerospace companies are reluctant to share with potential competitors the fruits of their independent research.



But collaborative efforts by aerospace companies under military auspices, "and paid for by the Defense Department, are common and need not violate anti-trust laws," Lowry said, and that is the likely course the aerospace plane will take.

Thus, the commercial airliner (or spaceliner) is expected to be a spin-off of military flight, just as the first jetliners, Britain's De Havilland Comet and this country's Boeing 707, emerged from the incubator of jet warplane technology.

Similarly, said Lowry, today's American-made wide-body airliners grew out of competition for a contract to supply the Air Force with a big transport plane. Lockheed won with its C-5, but the Boeing 747 and McDonnell Douglas DC-10 are successful byproducts.

Work on the aerospace plane project is being conducted in three major technical areas, Nelson said.

One is propulsion. "The jet engines that we have now will not do the job," he said.

An engine that would use liquid hydrogen fuel, as space shuttle boosters do, is being investigated. Unlike the shuttle, however, it would not tote liquid oxygen with it.

"We want to get away from carrying oxygen," Nelson said. "It's a very heavy commodity, and the air is full of it. So we want to use what's in the air."

Being considered, he said, is the concept of "a combined cycle engine that does the same thing as a turbojet at low speeds, operates as a supersonic ramjet, or scramjet, over most of its flight regime and then, when there is no available oxygen, has the capability to convert to a rocket engine for the last amount of thrust to put itself into orbit and to

de-orbit itself.

"Trying to put all those characteristics into a propulsion unit is a tough problem just in the design, but it seems feasible," Nelson said.

The second area concerns flight control design, which also will require radical advances in technology.

Shockwaves from the nose of the plane when it is moving at very high speeds would be harnessed to feed oxygen to the engines. As a result, Nelson said, "It isn't going to be a case of building an airframe and then hanging engines on it in nacelles. The engine-fuselage combination will have to be integrated very carefully."

In effect, he said, the whole underside of the plane probably will be part of the engine.

The third area is the development of engine and fuselage materials that would be capable of withstanding temperatures of up to 4,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

The ceramic tiles used on the Space Shuttle for heat resistance are too fragile and require replacement too often to be considered for the aerospace plane.

One possibility for engines and the structure of the plane is a composite of carbon fibers in a carbon matrix, Nelson said.

"These seem to have great heat endurance properties as well as strength, but it's not clear that we can put them together in large structures such as an airplane or whole engine," he said.

The Air Force has awarded contracts for additional work on the aerospace plane. Included are the development of engines and some of the structure to be conducted over the next three years.

There will be some testing in wind-tunnels, but that will be limited because there is no windtunnel that can simulate speeds greater than eight times the speed of sound.

After about three years, "we'll make a decision on whether to build an actual flight vehicle," Nelson said. "We would probably build two flight vehicles, plus some other articles, to be tested by the mid-1990s."

Then, if an aerospace plane appears to be feasible, final design and production could follow.

Britain also is working on a hypersonic plane. So far there has been no coordination of British and American efforts, Nelson said.

The Systems Command expects to discuss hypersonic aircraft programs with the British later this year. The outcome of such talks is doubtful. At the moment, the United Kingdom seems to be interested in developing its own hypersonic plane as a means of bolstering the British aircraft industry.

And Reagan appears to envision the Orient Express as a national endeavor, an all-American program.

In a major sense the United States missed out when, in the early 1970s, it abdicated its leadership position in advanced civilian aircraft technology by killing the supersonic transport. This enabled Britain and France to develop the Concorde without Western competition. The Soviet Union came up with a supersonic airliner, a poor copy of the Concorde, and it failed miserably.

At the moment, America's leaders appear to be eager to take back the lead in civil aviation design. If that feeling is sustained, the Orient Express will wear the U.S. Flag. ■

Power To The Planets

By Walter B. Hendrickson, Jr.

With the approval of NASA's space station, the next problem for the space agency is where do we go from there?

In answer to this question a wide variety of space projects has been proposed. These include a manned base on the moon and manned flights to Mars. In addition, space colonies have been proposed by Princeton University physicist Dr. Gerald K. O'Neill, and the Space Solar Power Satellites (SSPS) proposed by Dr. Peter B. Glaser, vice president of Arthur D. Little, Inc.

All of these various projects will require thousands of tons to be moved through space. The combination of liquid hydrogen fuel and

liquid oxygen oxidizer which the Space Shuttle Orbiter has used could do the job. A nuclear rocket could do it much more efficiently, however.

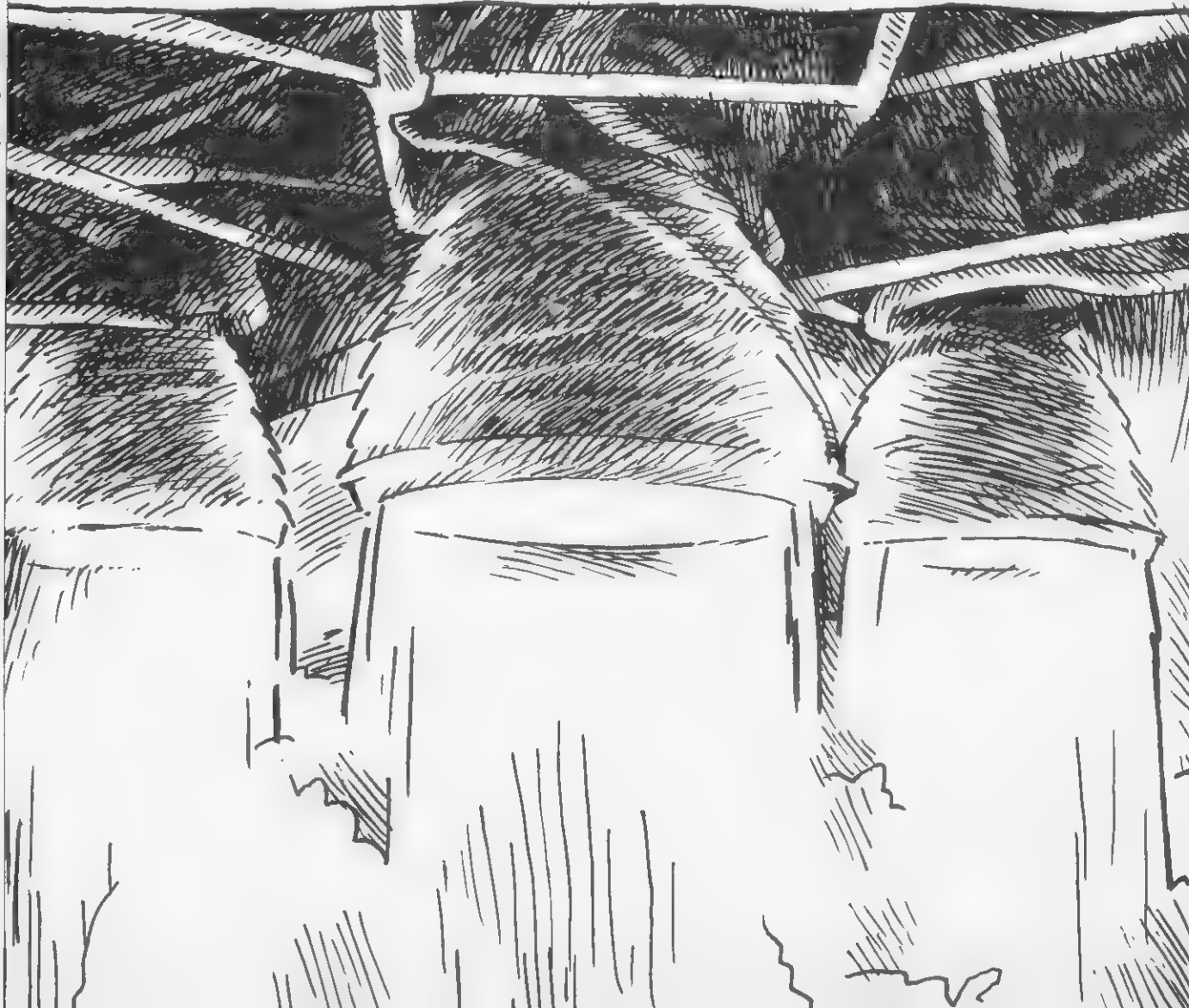
The nuclear rocket would use 68% less propellant — the uranium in the reactor is called the fuel — to lift the same amount of weight as the rockets launched by the Space Shuttle. Reason is that a nuclear rocket does not depend on the combustion of fuel and oxidizer to provide its thrust as do the chemically fueled rockets now in use. Instead, it would rely on the heat generated by the nuclear reaction to send a hot stream of propellants jetting out of its exhaust nozzle.

In the 1950s and 1960s, NASA

and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) had a joint nuclear rocket development program under way. Appropriately enough, for a device with a kick to it, the proving ground was at Jackass Flats, Nev.

Project Rover began late in the 1950s with the development of the Kiwi nuclear rocket by Los Alamos Laboratory in New Mexico. This nuclear bird, flightless like its New Zealand namesake, developed the basic concepts for nuclear rockets. Like all Project Rover's nuclear rockets, Kiwi used a solid graphite core. The radiation from uranium mixed in this core created heat which boiled liquid hydrogen fuel. As the fuel expanded, it rushed out the nozzle

Illustration by Gray Ginther



of the rocket engine. In a flight model of the nuclear rocket, this would generate enough thrust to drive the spacecraft forward.

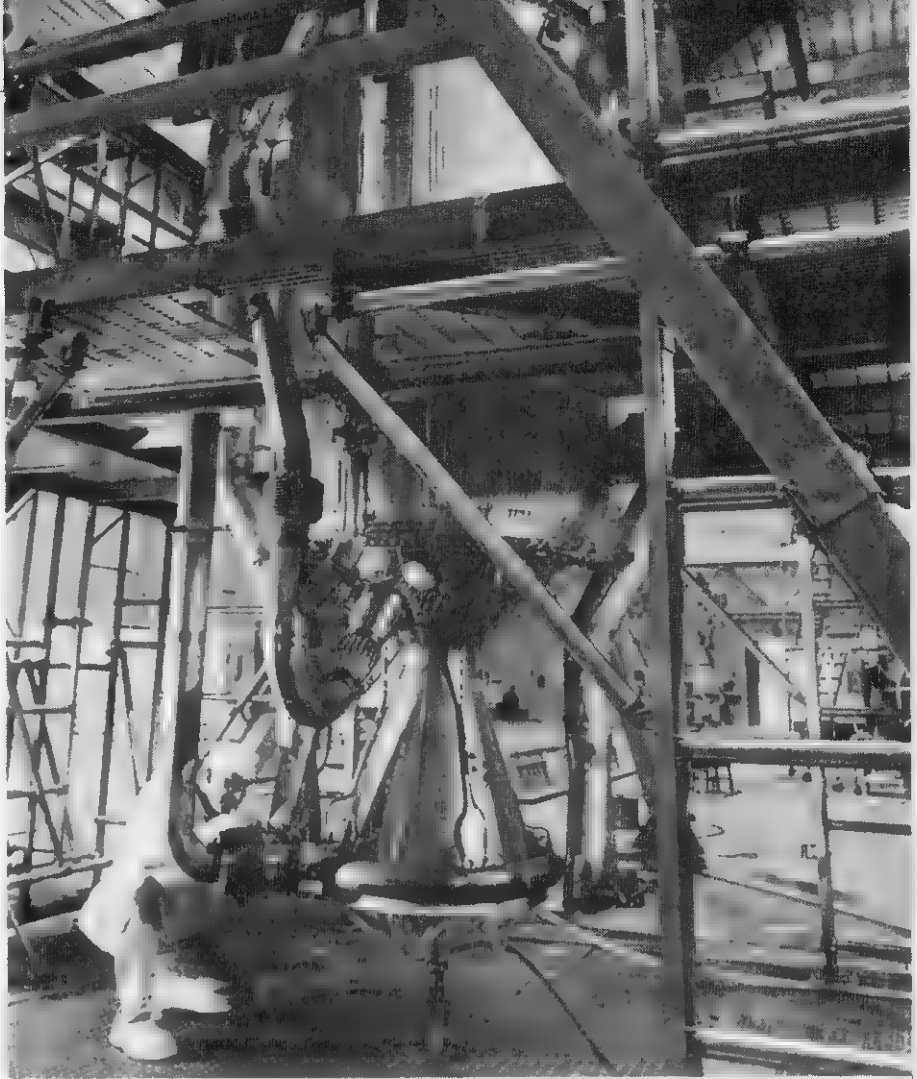
The next step after the Kiwi was the Phoebus reactor, an improved and more powerful version of the Kiwi. The first test firing of the Phoebus reactor was in February, 1967. Phoebus has contributed much valuable information to the NERVA rocket — the final step in Project Rover.

NERVA, an acronym for Nuclear Engine Rocket Vehicle Application, is the prototype of the flight model of the nuclear rocket. The first NERVA test models produced only 5,000 pounds of thrust, but the flight model would develop 200,000 pounds of thrust — equal to many of the larger conventionally-fueled rockets. Aerojet General Corp. and Westinghouse Electric Co. manufactured the NERVA.

By mid-1967, eight tests of the NERVA had been completed in a series that began in 1964. Nearly five hours of firing were accumulated during these tests. The last three tests, begun in the spring of 1966, lasted for 30 minutes each at full power — the longest time a rocket is expected to be run in actual flight.

This first series of NERVA tests was completed in mid-1966. In them a "breadboard" model engine was used — one having all the parts needed for a flight model but not in flight configuration. Also the rocket nozzle was pointed upward instead of down as it would be on an actual flight. After these "breadboard" firings, Test Stand 1 was built so that flight models of the NERVA could be fired with the nozzle pointing downward. The first test firings of the NERVA rocket began late in March, 1969.

These tests were run at various thrusts, up to full power of 75,000 pounds. They also demonstrated the ability of the NERVA to stop and restart and to perform at simulated high altitudes. The nuclear rocket



A technician works on a flight model of the NERVA nuclear rocket.

program was cancelled in the early 1970s, however. At that time, NASA was suffering severe budget cutbacks because of public and Congressional loss of interest in space travel, following the manned moon landings and the Vietnam War.

Still the tests that have been run already would put the program that much further toward completion of a flight model nuclear rocket. In addition, the test facilities must have deteriorated very little over the years in the dry desert air.

Although nuclear rockets are more expensive than chemically-fueled rockets of the same size, this cost is offset by cheaper and more efficient operation. With a nuclear upper stage, the Saturn could carry 30% to 300% heavier spacecraft, depending on the mission. For this reason, the Saturn V was originally designed with the possibility of a nuclear upper stage in mind. The flight model of the NERVA was 33

feet wide so that it would fit this role on the Saturn V third stage.

This makes the NERVA too large and heavy to be launched by the Space Shuttle. Since the last of the Saturn Vs had been used, this means that a launch vehicle would have to be developed. Such boosters are already on the drawing board. They are called HLLV's, for Heavy Lift Launch Vehicles. These could be either completely new or made of Space Shuttle components.

Because of radiation hazards, nuclear rocket engines are planned to serve only as upper stages. In this way, they will be safely out in space before they are fired. Any special equipment that is needed for the NERVA rockets could be added at the Kennedy Space Center along with the modifications that would be needed for the HLLV's that would boost it into space.

Special tests using small scale dummy models of the NERVA have

shown little danger of harmful radiation being released if the booster rocket is blown up in flight.

Of course, no specific mission has been selected for the NERVA. However, the development of a rocket engine requires a longer time than the mission preparation; just as one million-pound rocket engines were being developed long before the Saturn V itself took shape.

There are several possible missions on which the NERVA could be used. First, there is an unmanned probe to the outer planets of Jupiter, Saturn and beyond to return samples. A similar probe could be sent sunward for a close look at Mercury. On these missions, the nuclear rocket would allow an HLLV to carry a 70% to 100% heavier spacecraft.

On the outer planet probe, it could also cut the trip time to two or three years — less than half the time required by chemically-fueled rockets.

The most glamorous mission for the NERVA would be a manned mission to Mars or Venus — or both, if the timing were just right. On the mission, the NERVA would allow a 100% to 300% increase in the size of the manned spacecraft. A single NERVA engine would be enough for a manned fly-by of Mars and Venus.

For a manned landing, three NERVA engines would have to be joined together in space. Still, this would require considerably fewer launchings than assembling a chemically-fueled interplanetary rocket in orbit.

Because of the radiation danger, a chemically-fueled engine would be used for the actual landings on the planets.

A more prosaic use for the NERVA would be on a ferry rocket plying space between an orbit around the earth and an orbit around the moon. On this mission, it could increase the payload of the HLLV 30% to 60%.

Chemically-fueled rockets would take passengers from the nuclear-

powered ferry to the surface of the moon or earth. Only time the NERVA rocket would land on the moon or a planet would be when it was to be converted into a power station for a permanent base.

Future historians may look back on the development of nuclear rockets as a step similar to the introduction of steam into ocean transportation. In fact, the nuclear rockets now being planned are quite similar to the early ocean-going steamships which used a combination of old and new power — both steam and sails.

A Phoebe 2 A nuclear rocket is moved into position in a test stand at Jackass Flats, Nevada.



Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory



A NERVA rocket runs at full power during a Nozzle-up Test at Jackass Flats, Nevada, on June 26, 1968.



Photo by Mitsuo Shibata

Wake Remembered

By Capt. Kevin K. Krejcarek

A former Wake defender surveys the remnants of the battle 44 years earlier.



Wake Island, a glistening, wind-beaten, tropical coral atoll surrounded by a large expanse of the royal blue Pacific Ocean, encompasses an area of less than four square miles on the collapsed rim of an extinct volcano 2,200 miles west of Hawaii.

Newcomers and visitors to Air Force-administered Wake are greeted with a sun-faded sign painted on the terminal building wall which proclaims "Where America's Day Really Begins."

Back in 1941, Wake Island was where the first American land battles of World War II also began. For a group of 85 special guests, known as the Wake Island Defenders and Survivors, it was the first time they had set foot on the island in 44 years. On this Nov. 2-3, 1985, trip, it was a time to share experiences and remember

the fighting and their eventual internment as POWs. Wives and family accompanying them finally could come to understand where these horrors of war and internment in prisoner camps all began.

Only hours after the first bombs fell on Hawaiian installations, 100-pound bombs unleashed from 36 Japanese bombers devastated the islands. Wake is the largest of the three pieces of coral islands that include also Peale and Wilkes.

For the 523 Marine Corps, Navy and Army Air Corps servicemen and the 1,200 civilian contract workers and Pan American World Airways employees, America's war began for them on Dec. 8, 1941.

Eight of the 12 F-4F Wildcat fighters were destroyed in the initial attack, along with the Pan American complex.

Leroy Myers and his father were civilian contract workers building fortifications for possible hostilities.

"I was a crane operator on the waterfront and we unloaded anything, including torpedoes. When the first bombers came in, we couldn't hear the warning," he said, looking down at his hands as he vividly recalled the attack.

"A Marine guy came running up to us and told us to shut down because you could see the engine's exhaust. I wasn't a hundred yards from where our planes were bombed."

The 1,200 civilian workers were part of Contractors Pacific Naval Air Bases, a consortium of eight construction companies which were also fortifying other American-held bases.

One of the Navymen on the island was Julian Sandvold. As a seaman second class, he was charged with refueling PBVs. "I was going to lunch by truck when we got hit. I started running but the shrapnel from the bombs got me. I was wounded on the first day and never got back into it."

One of the six Army Air Corps veterans on the island was Sgt. Robert Hotchkiss. "We shipped out of Honolulu for Wake on Nov. 1, 1941, to set up a radio transmitter and receiver unit. We had B-17s going to our bases in the Pacific and we had no communications with them." Until he set out for Wake, he was assigned to Hickam Field, work-

ing in the control tower.

"When the enemy bombers came in, we dismantled the radio we had in our truck and set it up in magazine 14W," which was the command post. While he was giving his account, a head came over the aircraft seat from behind and said "No sir. There weren't any Air Corps guys on Wake. I worked radio and I don't remember any." Stories began to be exchanged before realizing the differences in each other's communications assignments.

Hotchkiss added, "I've even got my death certificate from the War Department which lists me killed at Wake." Spry for one deceased, he unveiled the story of how a telegram was sent to his mother but remained a secret to him until years later.

As the Japanese bombers continued to soften defenses, civilian and military workers joined in the exceedingly difficult task of moving their 3- and 5-inch guns to keep them from being destroyed. One defender told of the stovepipes and logs they put up to appear like the guns. "I'm sure the enemy thought they had knocked out all our defenses when they made their first attempt at landing."

A barrage by assault ships hit the island. The four remaining aircraft were ordered to hold until the shore guns opened up. When they did, the aircraft took to the skies. Among

them they sank two destroyers and possibly another, damaged three cruisers and one transport and crippled the enemy with a loss of more than 700 men. On Wake only four injuries were listed.

A resounding defeat for the Japanese, they limped back to base where they would regroup and resolve to conquer the island.

When the Japanese fleet returned, it came with a much larger force, including aircraft carrier support. The defenders sank a submarine on the 12th. A VMF-211 pilot was credited. Already four planes and their pilots had accounted for the downing of 21 enemy aircraft.

On the ground, several civilians had been manning the guns alongside military men whom they nicknamed "Tin Soldiers." Their training was no more than about ten days of drill and a couple live firings, but their accuracy in battle was superb. Together the civilians and Tin Soldiers were putting pressure on the enemy bombers with their accurate firing that greatly reduced the enemy's effectiveness.

Col. Arthur Poindexter, then a second lieutenant, recalled the fighting on the south shore and the first landing by Japanese forces on Dec. 23.

"We had machine guns set up over there and were trying to improve our field of fire," he said, pointing

A former Marine proudly raises his service flag over Wake Island. He carried this flag with him from the States just for it to fly over the island as it did while the battle raged.



towards two locations behind tropical underbrush. "We had strung communication lines between the command post and our group, but they were cut by shells hitting around our positions.

"When the enemy hit the beach, we began throwing hand grenades at them. They were no further away than from here to there," barely 100 feet.

Not long after the Japanese forces landed and set up their beach head, the last radio message from Wake was sent to Hawaii. It simply said, "Enemy on island. Issue in doubt."

Russell Thomas gave a sigh as he recollected how it came that the surrender was decided. He was in the command post when Navy Cdr. Winfield S. Cunningham, commander of the Naval Air Station at Wake, and Marine Maj. James P.S. Devereux, 1st Marine Defense Battalion commander, were discussing the matter.

"Cunningham recommended surrendering because their job was to protect the civilians, but Devereux wanted to continue fighting. Cunningham said that if they did continue to fight, no one would be left alive."

The word was sent out to destroy their vintage weapons rather than let them fall into enemy hands. Then

they surrendered. Marine Bob Shores was on Wilkes Island when the surrender came, but because the communication lines had been cut before, they never got the word and continued fighting. This group, under the command of Capt. Wesley Platt, held two Japanese prisoners. "When the fighting got more intense, our prisoners pointed to the foxhole and to the bombs exploding. We nodded yes and hit the foxholes with them."

Elsewhere on the island, all had surrendered until Devereux called in that anyone in a foxhole should surrender," Shores recalled. "We would have continued to fight if we had not recognized his voice."

Bob Pearsall, then a private first class, recalled what it was like after surrendering. "They ordered us to take all our clothes off and then bound us hand and foot with communication wire. They had no rope. They had strict orders, you know, not to take any prisoners."

Machine guns were set up behind them. "That's when we realized it. Luckily a light squall came so they covered up the machine guns. After it stopped raining, they wiped them off." About 50 men were in his group. "A Japanese officer had his sword out and was ready to give the order to execute us. But another officer

came running up the road screaming something. An argument went on between the two officers. After it was over, the guns were removed and we were untied."

Pearsall would later learn that an admiral gave the order to take prisoners because of the civilian workers. "If there were only military on the island, we probably would have been executed," Pearsall recounted.

Most of the American POWs would eventually be taken by ship to prison camps in China, Korea or Japan. But while they waited, they harassed the enemy. Some of the 50-caliber guns were still operable. "A couple of us were told to teach them (the Japanese) how to use them," recollected one former Marine. "When they weren't watching, we stole the firing pins, and when they marched us back to camp, we threw them in the brush. They were really mad when they found out but couldn't remember which ones of us they had taken out there," chuckling at the site 44 years away from that time.

Ninety-eight would never leave the island alive. They were beheaded in late 1943, the last Americans held on the island.

Wake Island, like Pearl Harbor, Bataan and Corregidor, was a land of heroes. For the grave and devastating losses they inflicted on the Japanese, it gave the nation the lift it needed following the attack on Hawaii military installations. "Remember Wake Island" was one such cry. The first Marine aviator to receive the Medal of Honor in World War II went to a Wake defender, Capt. Henry T. Elrod, a pilot of VMF-211.

For the Wake Island Defenders and Survivors, this was the first time they'd been back. No tears were shed, but many a silent prayer were given — to fallen military, civilians and even to the enemy force they fought. This was the first time the group of civilians and military ever got together. Their annual reunions were always separate up to this time, and the stories flew while old acquaintances were rekindled.

However, during this trip the group issued one more message, "Defenders and Survivors on island. Issue no longer in doubt." Col. Poin-dexter added, "We have returned."



These bunkers were built by the Japanese after the capture of Wake Dec. 23, 1941. The Japanese continued to build fortifications throughout the war.

6 D A Y S



The first U.S. Flag to fly in Japan is saluted after being raised on the VHF antenna mast of the 5th Fighter Command's "Flying Circus."



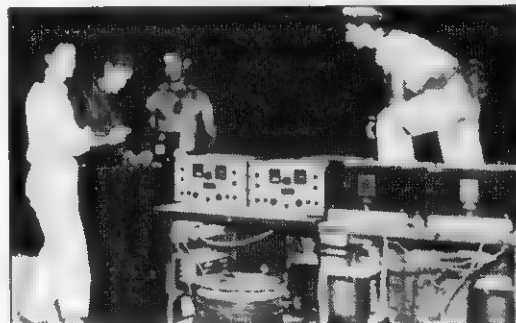
A Soviet officer, right, joins Americans at Atsugi.



Crewmembers of the "Flying Circus" airborne fighter control center pose for pictures.



Signal officer from headquarters of the 5th Air Force, Col. Bryan is being driven off in a Japanese staff car.



Communications equipment being readied at Atsugi.

before the Japanese surrendered aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay on Sept. 2, 1945, the first United States occupation troops landed on Aug. 28 at Atsugi airfield. The 150 5th Air Force technicians arrived in a B-24 bomber and 47 transport planes to prepare the field for the 11th Airborne Division that came in on Aug. 30, although an advance party from the division also arrived on Aug. 28. Those days of 41 years ago are recaptured in this remarkable sequence of pictures provided by Taylor S. Shreve, a member of Post 1 in Denver who was with the first Americans at Atsugi. He was a Signal Corps radio officer for Aircraft Control and Warning of the 5th Fighter Command.

Like many members of the VFW who went overseas or returned home via New York, John J. Thomas, a member of **Post 9639**, Shellsville, Pa., has a special memory of the Statue of Liberty, which, until he entered New York Harbor, he always called "Miss Liberty."

In a recent letter to VFW Magazine, he wrote that he and other GIs made the voyage home in November, 1945, aboard the SS Walter Forward, a Liberty ship:

"Bull sessions rambled on into the night, and some, I swear for the entire voyage. . . We all joked about the Walter Forward going sideways because it took 11 days for us to cross the Atlantic. But each day the voices were becoming more exuberant as we neared the States. . . Then one evening when the bull sessions reached an unusually high crescendo, the chattering was suddenly split like an axe striking cordwood by someone at the rail yelling excitedly, 'There's the lady!'"

"The silence that followed was deafening, a moment I shall never forget. Without a word, these war-calloused veterans moved to the closest spot they could find near the rail and stared silently with watering eyes at the beautiful silhouette on Bedloe's Island breaking out of the darkness.

"I can't help but feel that we too were experiencing some of that bliss and relief enjoyed by our forefathers when they first sighted her. It was that night on that ship a man I never knew gave her a sign of respect she has certainly earned: the Lady. Miss Liberty no longer. I believe all those men on the SS Walter Forward will agree that the following week meant so much more to each of us, for it was Thanksgiving, 1945."

Illinois Lt. Gov. George Ryan and Atty. Gen. Neil Hartigan received awards from the **Department of Illinois** at its convention in Rosemont for their efforts in combatting drug abuse in cooperation with the Department. The two have spoken to more than 9,200 high school students since March, 1985, on the



At the cross marking the grave of Pfc. Dennis I. Venne at the Margraten American Military Cemetery, John Vervoort displays the award he received from Post 721, Waukesha, Wis., for "adopting" Venne's grave.

dangers of drug abuse. Otha Foley, director of drug and alcohol abuse programs for the Illinois Department, made the presentations. Assisting him was Jerry Margrave, assistant director and chairman of the drug and alcohol abuse committee of **Post 9579**, Loves Park, Ill. A similar award was to have been presented to Pat McGauley, of the Chicago Sting soccer team, but he was on his honeymoon. It will be made at the team's first fall game.

Post 721, Waukesha, Wis., has presented an award to John H. Vervoort, of Eijsden, the Netherlands, who adopted the grave of Pfc. Dennis I. Venne, a Milwaukee, Wis., soldier buried in the American Military Cemetery at Margraten. Venne was wounded March 5, 1945, while serving with the 8th Armored Division, and died a month later. Adopting a grave means taking flowers to the cemetery six or seven days a year on occasions such as Memorial Day or the soldier's birthday. Vervoort wrote the Post that adopting a grave is popular with his fellow townsmen.

Earl Oyler, a member of **Post 4495**, Taylorville, Ill., was featured on Cable News Network during its salute to the rededication of the Statue of Liberty. Singing two songs he wrote for the occasion, "This Ameri-

continued on page 38

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Awards, Commemorations

The summer and spring are times when veterans remember those who died for their country and others are honored for what they have done for their country and communities. On these pages are captured a few of those moments.



Robert Webb, president of Webb Metals, Inc., Seminole, Okla. center, receives the VFW's national second place Employer of the Year Award from Past VFW Commander-in-Chief R.D. (Bulldog) Smith, left, and the Oklahoma employer award from Department Commander Robert B. Thomas during the Oklahoma Department convention

Virginia Department Chaplain Albert C. Rogers and Chairman James F. Werner, of VFW Veterans Employment, Virginia Department, prepare to lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery



Maryland Adj. Arnett Powers and Commander Clyde Speelman, of Post 193, Baltimore, Md., lay a wreath on the grave of Past Commander-in-Chief Paul Wolman Powers was keynote speaker at memorial services held for the deceased VFW leader



Post 10081, Bel Alton, Md., dedicated this memorial to Charles County war dead on May 24. Shown are Post Commander-elect John Low, Post Commander F. Luther Hayden and Department Commander Michael Mason



Judges in this year's Community Activities Record-book contest survey the array of entries. They are Col. Tom Ashby, of the Missouri Department of Health, Carl Foster, public relations director emeritus of Central Missouri State University, and Missouri State Rep. Jan Martinette

Wreaths are laid at the statue of Nathan Hale outside the Justice Department Building in Washington as the VFW National Honor Guard stands at attention. Event was sponsored on Hale's birthday by the Association of Former Intelligence Officers in connection with National Intelligence Community Week. Joseph Nassar, guard adjutant, sounded Taps at ceremony's conclusion.



Christian A. Jorgenson receives an award from Commander James White of Post 7284 Washington D.C. at Howard University's spring ROTC awards program.



Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Norman G. Staab presents Midshipman Jeffrey David Semancik with the VFW award at the Naval Academy commencement ceremonies.



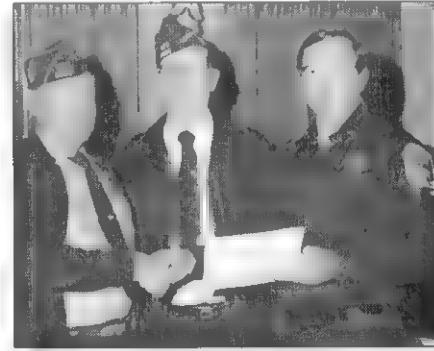
Coast Guard Midshipman Peter W. Seaman is presented the VFW award at Coast Guard Academy ceremonies by Commander in Chief John S. Staum.



Jr. Vice Commander in Chief Earl L. Stock Jr. presents the VFW award to Cadet Gregory P. Fitzharris at Military Academy.



Cadet Thomas F. Zimmerman right receives the VFW award from VFW Assistant Adj. Gen. Edward L. Burnham at Air Force Academy ceremonies.



****P**olk County Officer of the Year is the title bestowed on Rockmart, Ga. Police Chief Buddy Cagle right, by Post 6989, Cedartown, Ga. With Cagle are Commander William L. Vinson, of Post 6989, and District 7 Safety Director James L. Baker.



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☐ AIR FORCE COMMENDATION

☐ AIRMAN'S MEDAL

☐ AIR MEDAL

☐ AMERICAN CAMPAIGN

☐ AMERICAN DEFENSE

☐ ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY

☐ ARMED FORCES RESERVE

(Specify Branch)

☐ ARMY COMMENDATION

☐ ARMY GOOD CONDUCT

☐ ASIATIC-PACIFIC CAMPAIGN

☐ BRONZE STAR

☐ CHINA SERVICE (N, M/C, C/G)

☐ DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

☐ EUROPEAN-AFRICAN-M.E., CAMPAIGN

☐ KOREAN SERVICE

☐ MARINE GOOD CONDUCT

☐ NAVY COMMENDATION

☐ NAVY GOOD CONDUCT

☐ NAVY & MARINE CORPS MEDAL

☐ NAVY RESERVE MEDAL

☐ NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE

☐ PHILIPPINE LIBERATION

☐ PURPLE HEART

☐ REP. VIETNAM CPGN/YEAR BAR

☐ SILVER STAR

☐ UNITED NATIONS SERVICE

☐ VIETNAM SERVICE

☐ WORLD WAR II OCCUPATION

(Specify Branch)

☐ WORLD WAR II VICTORY

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can Dream of Yours and Mine," and "We Love Our Liberty," Oyler appeared several times on June 21 and 22 and on July 2. Oyler is now writing a song to commemorate the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution.

Thanks to Det. Hector Defendini and other members of Post 885, College Point, N.Y., and the Johann-Gleason Funeral Home, Pete Schmidt has received a burial befitting a man who served his country.

Schmidt, World War II veteran, was found dead on a New York subway in March, 1982, with no money or living relatives to see to his funeral. The city buried him in Potter's Field.

Two years before his death, Schmidt drifted to the Bowery, living on his veterans' checks, and members of Post 885 lost track of him. After Post members had not seen him for a while, Defendini checked records for 10 days to see whether he had been reported dead. By the time his fate had been learned, Schmidt had been buried weeks earlier. A search of VA records for living relatives proved fruitless.

In July, 1985, while rummaging through a room at the Post home, some of the members found an old suitcase belonging to Schmidt. It contained a box of personal items such as wartime pictures and a letter he wrote his mother in 1926, a citation for his Bronze Star for heroism and a deed to the plot where his mother is buried in Mount St. Mary's Cemetery in Flushing.

After VFW New York Department headquarters completed the paperwork and the funeral home agreed to help, several of Schmidt's old comrades from Post 885 saw to it that he was buried properly.

The first four-time Commander in the 67-year history of Post 200, Hastings-on-Hudson, N.Y., was installed as Robert T. Kesner, World War II Navy combat communications officer, again assumed the top

job. Past Commander George S. Martin was installing officer for the 1986-87 term. Kesner was the first World War II commander, serving two terms from 1947 to 1949. He was elected to the same office again last year.

Several Posts have marked anniversaries over the past few months.

Among them were Post 669, Allston, Mass., and Post 676, Glenside, Pa., which observed their 65th year, and Post 3423, Ashland, Ore., and Post 2800, Dayton, Ohio, their 50th.

Post 6378, Dickinson, Texas, celebrated its 40th anniversary with the burning of a \$104,000 mortgage taken out eight years ago to build its home.

Post 669 was the second Post to be organized in the Department's 16th District. The anniversary banquet was chaired by Past Commander Vincent DeStefano, a World War II veteran, with Past Commander Paul Mahoney, a Korean War veteran, and Commander Timothy McKenzie, a Vietnam veteran, as vice chairmen. Past Department Commander Emelio F. Marino was master of ceremonies.

Post 676 honored two living charter members at its celebration. They are Ted Louis and Richard Refsnyder, who received citations from President Reagan. They were presented by Jr. Vice Commander Raymond Legus, who chaired the anniversary committee.

Oregon Department Commander Leon Bennett presented Post 3423 and its Auxiliary with their Golden Certificates. Accepting were Post Commander Don Troutman and Auxiliary President Betty Troutman.

In connection with its golden jubilee, Post 2800 reviewed its history and that of its Auxiliary. The Post was named for Stuart Patterson, the son of a Dayton civic leader who contributed the Dayton Art Institute to the city.

June Commanders-of-the-Month

DEPARTMENT



DIV. I
Nick Vannicelli (8)
Ohio



DIV. II
Renie Champagne (2)
California



DIV. III
James R. Burkhart (2)
Florida



DIV. IV
Michael J. Mason, Sr. (3)
Maryland



DIV. V
James E. Higgins (9)
Virginia



DIV. VI
George B. Thomson (2)
Kentucky



DIV. VII
Gil LaMontagne (3)
Arizona



DIV. VIII
Al Gordon (3)
Vermont



DIV. IX
Judd Clemens (9)
Alaska



DIV. X
Robert F. Ramirez (7)
Panama Canal

DISTRICT

DIV. I
District 11
Ohio
Robert W. Graff (6)

DIV. II
District 14
Maryland
David R. Clark (7)

DIV. III
District 19
Florida
Lesley J. Louthen (2)

DIV. IV
District 3
California
Ernest R. Blodgett (5)

DIV. V
District 5
Georgia
Charlie B. Stephenson (2)

DIV. VI
District 14
Missouri
Harlan Embrey (6)

DIV. VII
District 7
Oklahoma
Chuck Howland

DIV. VIII
District 5
Germany
Elmer Matheke (2)

POST

DIV. I
Post 1114
Indiana
Ivan Dimmett (10)

DIV. II
Post 5263
Oklahoma
Gabe Symuleski

DIV. III
Post 112
Kansas
Harold C. Naegele (3)

DIV. IV
Post 639
Massachusetts
Charles J. Lawson (7)

DIV. V
Post 9083
Maryland
Nicholas T. Bassetti (10)

DIV. VI
Post 9785
Alaska
Miles Pierce (6)

DIV. VII
Post 7234
Delaware
Robert E. McClay (2)

DIV. VIII
Post 9927
Ohio
David L. Turner (5)

DIV. IX
Post 8510
Minnesota
Marty L. Ban (8)

DIV. X
Post 4002
Texas
Alfred R. Reyes

DIV. XI
Post 392
Virginia
Gary H. Click (4)

DIV. XII
Post 797
Texas
Daniel H. Nance

DIV. XIII
Post 3433
South Carolina
John D. Mellert

DIV. XIV
Post 8564
Texas
William B. Warren (9)

DIV. XV
Post 4395
Texas
Ebert Jones

DIV. XVI
Post 2242
Arkansas
Bob Davis (3)

DIV. XVII
Post 2131
Illinois
Tiger Miller (2)

DIV. XVIII
Post 544
Massachusetts
Joseph R. Gauthier

DIV. XIX
Post 9981
Alaska
Ray Gauthier (2)

DIV. XX
Post 5865
Pennsylvania
Acie T. Marksberry (10)

(Figure in parentheses indicates number of times Commander has won this honor.)

Posts of 1,000 Members or More

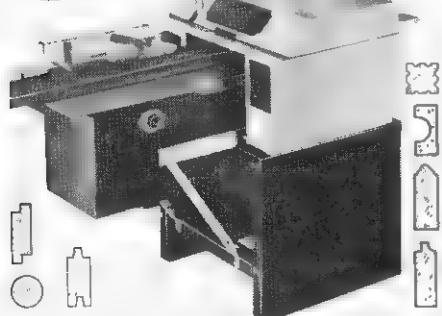
Recorded as of July 9, 1986

Place	Post No.	Location	1985-86 Membership
1	1114	Evansville, IN	4219
2	3579	Park Ridge IL	2833
3	628	Sioux Falls SD	2684
4	5555	Richfield MN	2613
5	1146	St Clair Shores, MI	2552
6	47	Uniontown, PA	2529
7	49	Mobile, AL	2357
8	1308	Alton IL	2294
9	1064	Huntington, WV	2216
10	360	Mishawaka IN	2180
11	1273	Rapid City SD	2166
12	131	Lincoln NE	2163
13	2539	Gulfport, MS	2152
14	1296	Bloomington, MN	2105
15	6506	Rosedale MD	2040
16	401	Albuquerque NM	2018
17	2290	Manville NJ	1948
18	3382	Kingsport TN	1941
19	6704	Mechanicsburg, PA	1901
20	8541	San Antonio, TX	1892
21	969	Tacoma, WA	1881
22	283	Kingston PA	1868
23	249	Butler, PA	1865
24	379	Yakima WA	1824
25	5263	Fort Sill OK	1801
26	6975	Bristol VA	1789
27	6640	Metairie LA	1769
28	2503	Omaha NE	1713
29	2100	Everett WA	1703
30	641	Columbia SC	1691
31	1599	Chambersburg, PA	1680
31	1275	Lima OH	1680
33	9400	Sunnyslope AZ	1671
34	4372	Odessa TX	1665
35	112	Wichita KS	1664
36	1079	Elyria OH	1661
37	7987	New Port Richey, FL	1654
38	6796	Dallas, TX	1651
39	549	Tucson AZ	1648
40	9191	Killeen TX	1645
41	6712	Revere, MA	1641
42	9619	Morningside MD	1640
43	4057	Tupelo, MS	1631
44	1003	Jefferson City, MO	1628
45	2704	South Omaha, NE	1627
46	1650	Topeka KS	1620
47	367	Joliet, IL	1610
48	1736	Alexandria, LA	1604
49	1989	Indiana PA	1595
50	891	Asheville NC	1578
51	573	Clarksburg WV	1559
52	1	Denver CO	1555
53	53	Jamestown, NY	1540
54	7330	Oakville CT	1538
55	5632	St Louis Park, MN	1535
56	7175	Millington TN	1530
57	3777	Festus MO	1527
58	1621	Janesville WI	1510
59	7119	Indianapolis, IN	1508
60	3851	Carmi IL	1507
61	1475	Amarillo TX	1502
62	1000	Independence, MO	1492
62	2754	West View, PA	1492
64	23	Lebanon PA	1485
65	1432	Salina KS	1479
66	4087	Davison MI	1469
67	4848	Chattanooga, TN	1466
68	3892	Harker Heights, TX	1465
69	2012	Arlene, TX	1445
70	4903	Tucson, AZ	1432
71	5225	W Memphis, AR	1425
72	832	S Portland, ME	1416
73	1857	Oklahoma City, OK	1415
74	501	Denver, CO	1410
75	6874	Lemon Grove, CA	1407
76	2529	Sandusky OH	1406
77	6896	Detroit, MI	1404
77	447	Albert Lea, MN	1404
79	1810	Brentwood PA	1403
80	1865	Kenosha, WI	1401
81	6251	Cheeklowaga NY	1393
82	295	S St Pau MN	1388
83	3962	Corinth MS	1364
84	2199	Joliet, IL	1350
85	9223	Arlington CA	1340
86	762	Fargo ND	1332
88	733	Mason City, IA	1332
88	3838	Cape Girardeau, MO	1326
89	2940	W Seneca NY	1325
90	428	Saint Cloud MN	1324
91	1590	Daytona Beach, FL	1319
92	137	Duluth, MN	1317
93	2702	Huntsville, AL	1314
94	2346	Saugus MA	1309
95	589	Hazleton, PA	1296
96	1990	Greeneville, TN	1280
97	10209	Spring Hill, FL	1279
98	5206	Hendersonville, NC	1278
98	972	Terre Haute, IN	1265
100	1536	Sayre, PA	1256
101	9186	San Antonio, TX	1255
102	1863	Solon, OH	1254
103	1216	Austin, MN	1249
104	3790	Logansport, IN	1247
105	6827	St Petersburg, FL	1246
106	1639	Willmar MN	1240
107	577	Tulsa, OK	1239
107	639	Malden MA	1239
108	8790	Houston TX	1229
110	4051	Colorado Springs CO	1227
111	2130	Lake Charles, LA	1224
112	1435	Spokane WA	1223
113	2640	Wallington, NJ	1220
114	1120	Indianapolis, IN	1213
115	9337	Gastonia, NC	1212
116	2093	Orlando FL	1208
117	1115	Hillsville VA	1202
118	4488	Grenada MS	1195
119	305	Eau Claire, WI	1190
120	668	Birmingham AL	1185
121	3074	Lexington, NC	1179
122	6240	Russell KS	1177
122	1271	Central Falls RI	1177
124	1848	Jackson, TN	1176
125	3376	Ephrata PA	1167
126	4256	Madeira Beach FL	1153
127	788	Cedar Rapids, IA	1148
127	1474	Spokane WA	1148
129	4809	Norfolk, VA	1144
130	7069	Clarks Summit, PA	1137
131	1201	Ponca City OK	1136
131	3160	Norfolk, VA	1136
131	3982	Santa Clara CA	1136
134	7686	Alamogordo NM	1134
135	145	Bridgeport CT	1132
136	5108	Mareta, OH	1126
137	8919	El Paso, TX	1123
138	4075	Frankfort KY	1122
139	1693	New Albany, IN	1121
140	943	Ashtabula OH	1120
141	9083	Baltimore, MD	1107
141	191	Canonsburg PA	1107
141	425	Hopkins MN	1107
144	1326	Bismarck, ND	1106
144	3368	Mt Pleasant PA	1106
146	2111	Chula Vista, CA	1100
147	155	Johnstown PA	1096
148	4548	Jacksonville AR	1095
149	5266	Morristown TN	1089
150	2496	Alpena, MI	1084
151	1936	Hagerstown MD	1083
151	1720	Grand Rapids MN	1083
153	737	Council Bluffs IA	1082
153	1383	Klamath Falls OR	1082
155	167	Charlottesville VA	1077
155	5064	McMinnville TN	1077
155	9972	Sierra Vista, AZ	1077
158	905	Gardner MA	1075
159	1087	Great Falls MT	1074
160	2743	Norwalk, OH	1073
161	2562	Silver Spring MD	1072
162	495	Columbus, OH	1071
163	3073	Dothan, AL	1057
164	5220	Oak Lawn IL	1056
165	9539	Spartanburg SC	1055
166	950	Mankato, MN	1053
167	2785	Albany, GA	1051
168	1411	Cumberland, MD	1049
169	2148	Waco TX	1047
169	1154	Lafayette IN	1047
171	6694	Dundalk, MD	1046
171	2867	Garfield, NJ	1046
173	4699	Sayreville, NJ	1039
173	2866	St Charles MO	1039
175	3023	Grand Rapids, MI	1038
176	3383	Akron OH	1037
176	1754	Huntingdon PA	1037
178	3042	Laurel MS	1036
179	1944	Puente CA	1035
180	1069	Fairfield OH	1027
180	1212	Parkersburg WV	1027
182	3233	Sarasota FL	1024
183	5542	Bristol PA	1019
184	696	Owensboro, KY	1017
184	1386	Kingston NY	1017
184	3553	Chester IL	1017
187	9969	Del City OK	1016
188	2716	Weirton, WV	1012
188	673	Jasper, IN	1012
190	701	Lansing MI	1011
191	2520	Berlin, NH	1009
192	753	Minot ND	1002
192	10167	Holiday FL	1002
194	9192	Killeen TX	1001
194	8795	Adamstown PA	1001
196	382	El Reno, OK	1000
196	9625	Coon Rapids MN	1000
196	9785	Eagle River AR	1000



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NATIONAL AVERAGE — 100.75

1	ALASKA	109.25
2	Panama Canal	109.15
3	Pacific Area	106.43
4	Germany	106.41
5	Delaware	105.09
6	Arizona	103.47
7	Florida	103.03
8	Kentucky	102.71
9	Alabama	102.553
10	Oregon	102.549
11	Virginia	102.48
12	Ohio	102.27
13	Hawaii	102.22
14	Missouri	102.021
15	Vermont	102.018
16	Maryland	101.96
17	Texas	101.82
18	North Carolina	101.74
19	Arkansas	101.69
20	California	101.46
21	Wisconsin	101.16
22	Kansas	101.09
23	Connecticut	100.94
24	Iowa	100.76
25	Indiana	100.69
26	Oklahoma	100.62
27	New Jersey	100.59

28	Idaho	100.54
29	Minnesota	100.51
30	Montana	100.45
31	New Hampshire	100.43
32	Rhode Island	100.38
33	Nebraska	100.29
34	Nevada	100.280
35	South Dakota	100.278
36	Pennsylvania	100.273
37	New York	100.25
38	Utah	100.23
39	South Carolina	100.20
40	North Dakota	100.13
41	New Mexico	100.12
42	District of Columbia	100.05
43	Michigan	100.04
44	Colorado	100.02
45	Washington	99.64
46	Tennessee	99.46
47	Louisiana	99.35
48	Wyoming	99.15
49	Illinois	99.05
50	Massachusetts	98.84
51	Maine	98.27
52	West Virginia	97.61
53	Mississippi	97.45
54	Georgia	97.16

National Aides-de-Camp

The following members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class. To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members

Emmett G. Cherne, Post 2179, Middletown, N.J.; Calvin R. Bruton, Post 4008, Belton, Texas; Robert (Bob) D. Bishop, Post 2466, Lubbock, Texas; Claudie Johnson, Post 9972, Sierra Vista, Ariz.; Wallace Holman, Post 2278, Hot Springs, Ark.; Dr. S.A. Kopp, Post 3255, El Centro, Calif.; John D. Burns, Post 2097, Hartford, Conn.; Tiger Miller, Post 2131, Clinton, Ill.; Robert Richards, Post 8081, Warrenville, Ill.; John Joiner, Post 802, Hammond, Ind.; Leonard W. Collins, Post 3026, Baltimore, Md.; Donald J. Newman, Jr., Post 2866, St. Charles, Mo.; William C. Kort, Post 8745, Whiting, N.J.; Carl A. Robinson Sr., Post 641, Colum-

bia, S.C.; John D. Mellert, Post 3433, Ladson, S.C.; Charles D. Colley, Post 837, San Antonio, Texas; Valentino C. Medina, Post 2465, Corpus Christi, Texas; Donald Dickinson, Post 9555, Yokota AB, Japan; Pacific Areas, Luverne A. Swenson, Post 9472, Napa, Calif.; Robert G. Ford, Post 9128, Bettendorf, Iowa; Arthur Brown, Post 6078, Buffalo, Iowa; Garland W. Edmonson, Post 8773, Junction City, Kans.; George B. Force Jr., Post 7247, Barrington, N.J.; John V. Dougherty, Post 8714, Glendore, N.J.; Richard Barthold, Post 4290, New Milford, N.J.; Michael J. Miliano, Post 8867, Adamston, N.J.; Robert Bell, Post 539, Henryetta, Okla.; Don Carter, Post 3665, Bristow, Okla.; Taylor V. Howard, Post 8719, Advance, N.C.; Joseph A. Chrzan, Post 4699, Sayreville, N.J.; Thomas Long, Post 8708, Iowa Falls, Iowa; and Donald P. Gorder and Tony Schmitt, Post 9625, Coon Rapids, Minn.



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Hawaii Service Officer's
concern and dedication
result in the VA reversing
decision and awarding
family full Dependency
and Indemnity
Compensation.

To Philip Crampton, VFW Department Service Officer for the Department of Hawaii, it was all in a day's work, or more accurately, the work of many days; but to Mrs. Jaclyn Frederick, Crampton's work was something special.

The following letter from Mrs. Frederick tells of the frustration she encountered with the VA following the death of her husband and how Crampton, through skills acquired as a VFW representative, helped make life a little brighter for her and her children.

"On Nov. 5, 1984, my husband, a sergeant on active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps, was in an automobile accident and sustained such injuries that he died on Nov. 7, 1984.

"I made the decision to move back home to Hawaii with my three young children in order to be near my family. Up until June, 1985, everything seemed to be going along smoothly. Papers were filed with the Social Security office and with the Veterans Administration.

"I began receiving Social Security survivor benefits within a month. After three months had gone by, I contacted the VA and was told that my claim could take from 90 to 180 days to process. After 180 days, I

called and was told that the claim was to be denied and received formal notice to that effect several weeks later. I was then advised by my father and my uncle to contact Philip Crampton, the VFW representative here in Honolulu.

"I have nothing but praise and gratitude for the way he handled my case. He made what was a very stressful situation for me much easier to handle. Because of the paperwork involved, I had to relive the week of my husband's death. He helped me through that with understanding and hope that there was, in fact, light at the end of the tunnel.

"I know how many hours of work were involved for me; I can only imagine how many hours this wonderful, caring man dedicated to my case. As far as I am concerned, he went far above the call of duty. His efforts resulted in the VA reversing its decision and awarding, to me and my children, full Dependency and Indemnity Compensation benefits.

"My husband loved the Marine Corps and always believed that, because of the service he gave to his country, his family would be cared for if anything should happen to him.

"Philip Crampton, through his diligence, professional competence and caring for a fellow veteran, proved that the military does 'take care of its own.'

"I am very concerned that others in a similar situation may not know how to appeal the initial denial by the VA of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation benefits. Certainly, without the help of someone like Service Officer Crampton, the majority of people would be frustrated. Please continue to support this kind of service to veterans and survivors and publicize cases like mine as encouragement to the VA to award benefits where entitlement is just and proper."

COMB

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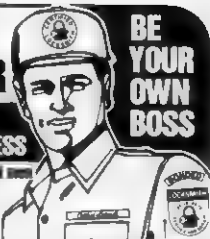
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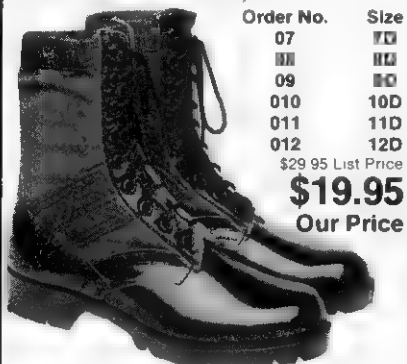
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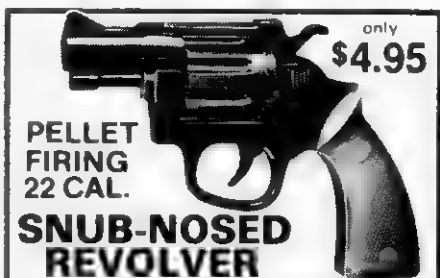
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For more information on our VFW-Sponsored Group Term Life Insurance call toll-free 1-800-821-2606, and ask for Chris Carter. (If you're in Missouri, call collect: 816-561-2338.) Call between 8:30 and 4:00 Central Time, any business day. Or write to VFW Insurance Department, Director, VFW Building, Broadway at 34th St., Kansas City, Mo. 64111.



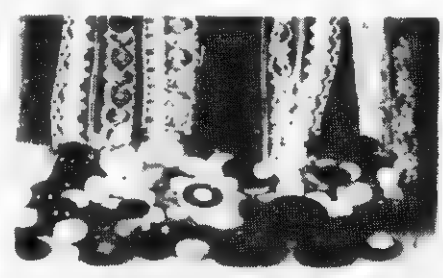
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GENERAL ORDERS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States

1985-86 Series General Orders No. 11

1. The following appointments are hereby announced: NATIONAL PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE Vice Chairman Allan D. Evans, Post 6240 Russell, Kans., and John L. Smith, Post 1391, Racine, Wis. NATIONAL DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF Ward Ransford, Post 775, Ottumwa, Iowa. NATIONAL AIDE DE CAMP, MEDAL OF HONOR CLASS Desmond T. Doss, Post 891, Asheville, N.C.
2. Posts that have not submitted a Post Election Report form listing officers for 1986-87 should do so immediately for matter of record and so that mailings can be made to the proper officers within the Post.
3. Departments that have not forwarded an official roster to National Headquarters listing the officers of their Department should do so immediately so that correspondence may be directed to the proper officers in each Department.
4. Attention of all Posts is directed to Section 107 of the National By Laws and Manual of Procedure, "Transfers," and the provisions for the official form (Form P-150) for the transfer of members from one Post to another and the requirement for its use in accepting a member by transfer. Posts can obtain P-150 forms by writing to their Department Headquarters or to the Membership Director, VFW National Headquarters.
5. Post Commanders and Adjutants will see that credentials for duly elected delegates to the National Convention are properly filled out and turned over to the proper representatives of the Post prior to their departure to the National Convention. Posts that have not sent in a Post Election Report form listing officers for 1986-87 will not receive credentials for the National Convention. Credentials will be mailed to Post Commanders on July 10.
6. National Headquarters offices will be open for business at the Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota, from Aug. 15 through Aug. 22, 1986.
7. Posts are reminded that they must register in advance one or more delegates to the VFW National Convention (Section 222 of the National Convention and By Laws). Advance registration fee is six dollars (\$6.00) per delegate and should be mailed to Veterans of Foreign Wars 87th National Convention, c/o Wesley Temple Office Building, Suite 1106, 123 East Grant Street, Minneapolis, Minn. 55403. Registration at the convention will be eight dollars (\$8.00).
8. Announcement is made of the correct location of the following Post: Post 4493, Candler, Fla., and Post 2059, Kirby, Texas.
9. Announcement is made of the correct location of the following Posts: Post 7919, Manalapan Township, N.J.
10. Charters for the following Posts have been authorized: Post 7390, Broomall, Pa., and Post 7673, Philadelphia, Pa.

By Command of
JOHN S. STAUM
Commander in Chief

OFFICIAL
Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.
Adjutant General

CLAIMS

Readers are urged to help these veterans seeking claim substantiation statements. Submit claims assistance requests to VFW Magazine, Claims, 406 W. 34 St., Kansas City MO 64111

AIR FORCE

716 Bomb Sq., 449 Bomb Gp., (Grottaglie, Italy)—Seeking anyone remembering my injury during the 192 Mission-GP ACFT #77—Sgt Joe T. Greer B-24 crewmember, Court House Room 109, Peru IN 46970

continued on page 46

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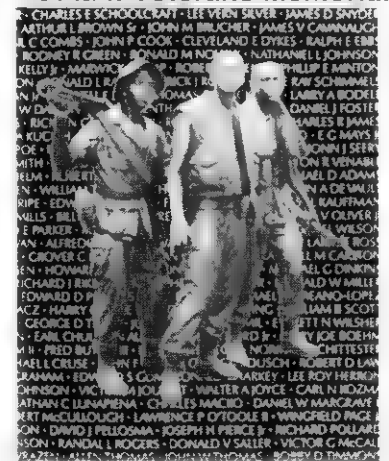
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CLAIMS

continued from page 45

20th Air Force, Bomb Disposal (Saipan 1947)—Seeking anyone who witnessed my fall off a cliff or subsequent hospitalization—Harry Muller, 355 Main St., Hackensack NJ 07601

9698th Air Force Reserve Sq. (Rolla MO)—Seeking members from the 9698th in January, 1957, for purpose of getting a pension—Duane Combs, 1036 6th St., W., Kalispell MT 59901.

ARMY

26th Sig. Construction Bn., Co. A—Seeking anyone with whom I served in Korea 1953-54. As witness to claim of treatment received in field medical units—Albert Wooten, 2415 Old Marion Rd., Meridian MS 39301.

CPL Missile System—Seeking anyone who worked as a Cpl fire control operator, mechanic or radar chief and has developed posterior cataracts—Richard Bernier, 103 N. Edgewood Dr., Apt. 3, Hagerstown MD 21740.

185th Port Co., 487th Port Bn. (WW II-England 1944)—Seeking Col. Montgomery Jackson and Lt. Brown, the officer and driver who took my unconscious body to the 279th station hospital—Warren Badgley, 674 Holmes St. NW, Atlanta GA 30318

5th Maintenance Btry. Phu Thai RVN 68-70 Sig. and Radar Maintenance Plt.—Seeking anyone who has developed posterior cataracts—Richard Bernier, 103 N. Edgewood Dr., Apt. 3, Hagerstown MD 21740

69th Armored, 1st Bn., Co. A (Vietnam, Jan. 23 to Aug. 19, 1969)—Seeking anyone in company remembering head injury I incurred, especially crewmen of 32, Doc. Kenny, Oliver, Sgt. Baker—William R. Jackson, 714 Basswood Rd., Columbus OH 43207.

WAC Detsta Co., 7025 A.S.U. Sn. Post, (Washington, D.C., Aug. 1949 to Sept. 1950) Seeking anyone stationed with me who remembers my softball injury—Mrs. John Benjamin, 5130 Tipperary Tr., Lincoln NE 68512-1458.

D/12/3-B.C.T. (Fl. Jackson, May-July 1965)—Seeking George Beck, Gary Grove, James Pape, Marcus Quinn, or anyone who remembers the night I injured my back—Ronald Metz, 6965 McCartney Rd., Louisville OH 44436

Engr. Training Ctr. Regional Station Hospital, Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo, Ward E-7 (July-Sept., 1945) Seeking Lt. Driscoll or Drisko MD who treated me or anyone who can recall my accident—Nolan Rossi, RFD 7, Box 91, Milbridge ME 04658

45th Div. 179th Rgt. 1st Bn. (Sept. 1943)—Seeking those who served when we hit the beaches at Salerno and were captured for 9 days and rescued by the 442nd RCT—Joseph Vezn, 2322 Clipper St., San Mateo CA 94403

Japan Sig. Service Bn., 8047 AU, APO 343—Seeking anyone who remembers my broken elbow, especially Janis Johnson, Gerald Burns and Sam Smith—Robert Spoor, P.O. Box 562, Pinehurst ID 83850

25th Div., 14th Inf. (Korea, 1952-53)—Seeking anyone in Co. E, F, G, or H, to file claim—Charles Spears, Rt. 8, Box 1225, Rogersville TN 37857.

3rd Inf. Div., 15th Rgt., Co. G—Seeking anyone who remembers my accident in front of Kelly O.P., especially Johnson, Robb and Lt. Peterson—Walter Williams, RR #10, Box 450, Cookeville TN 38501.

3rd Bn., Co. L, (Ft. Polk, 1964-65) Seeking William Hall, Francis Pembroke, or anyone remembering my head and shoulder injury—Don Breshears, Rt. 2, Box 66, Peary AR 71964

Spring of 1945 at Le Havre, France (Army Hospital)—Seeking the doctors who treated me in the hospital for snake bite—Arthur Landstrom, 1115 W. Bent Ave., Oshkosh WI 54901

38th Div., 152nd Inf., Co. E—Seeking anyone knowing about my ankle injury—Harold Leyda, 3242 Wagner, Shreveport LA 71108

7th Inf. Rgt., 3rd Inf. Div., HQ Co. (WW II, 1941-45)—Seeking those I served with, especially 1st Sgt. Blaa, Crain, Wolf, Pontrelli, Crawford, Maj. Issac and Capt. Johnson—Albert Augustino, 549 Charleston Ave., Paducah KY 42001.

78th FA Bn. (Wackerheim, Germany, 1953-55)—Seeking anyone with whom I served, especially on maneuvers in Bad Kreuznach, Germany—Charles Garfield, 2872 3rd St., White Cloud MI 49349

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continued on page 48

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CLAIMS

continued from page 46

MARINES

HMM-262 (Marble Mountain, Da Nang, Vietnam 1966-67)—Seeking Bob Colegrove or anyone knowing his whereabouts to substantiate a knee injury—Gene Kruger, 15835 Marentette, Mt. Clemens MI 48044.

MASS-2, Marine Air Support Sqd. (Camp Schwab, April 15, 1964)—Seeking anyone who remembers my fall from a telephone pole, especially Maj. Eddy—James Lasswell, 903 Perrine St., Johnston City IL 62951

2nd Mar. Div., FMF, 8th Mar., 3rd Bn., Co. L. (Beirut, Airport, 1958)—Seeking anyone who remembers my leg injury—Ronald Pinkowski, 89 Hollow Rd., Stuyvesant NY 12173.

1st Mar. Div., 27th FLT, 2nd Bn., Co. F.—Seeking anyone who remembers my ankle injury—Richard Kuecher, W. 138th St., Rosemount MN 550681

1st Mar. Div. (Chong-Song POW Camp)—Seeking Stanley Burke to help verify my claim—Daniel Arellano, 20618 S. Berendo Ave., Torrance CA 90502

NAVY

USS McClelland DE-750 (South Pacific, 1945)—Seeking anyone who was on board the McClelland and remembers that I was slightly injured by being knocked down a metal stairway—Thomas Mefford, P.O. Box 744, Andalusia AL 36420

SS Albert B. Cummings (1943)—Seeking Lt. Smith or Joe Myers to substantiate a claim—D. Masterson, 1012 S. Pennsylvania, Oklahoma City OK 73108

3010th AAF Base Unit Radar Mech. Bomb. (May 1945-46)—Seeking those who could verify a service related heart problem—George Riley, 4718 S.W. 85th Dr., Gainesville FL 32608

USS LSMR 412 (Korea 1952-53)—Seeking Don Putnam, John Benzeor and others who might remember my loss of hearing—George Vandewalle, 1118 Harvard Rd., Grosse Pointe Park MI 48230

USS Wyoming (1941)—Seeking anyone who remembers my back injury that occurred while carrying a shipmate down a ladder—James Kapanicas, 533 W. Guadalupe #1137, Mesa AZ 85202.

USS LST 632—Seeking anyone who remembers when I fell down the evaporation hatch on board—Floyd Weston, 644 E. 400 North, Springville UT 84663

USS Presque Isle (AP-44)—Seeking anyone who was present at the Bikini Atoll atomic bomb test—Byron Nesselroad, 814 Lenore ST., Parkersburg, WV 26101

REUNIONS

Reunion announcements are published as a cost free service to VFW members in good standing. To ensure timely inclusion of your announcement, all information pertaining to the event must arrive in VFW Magazine offices six months prior to the reunion. Reunion announcement forms must be used and can be obtained by writing VFW Magazine, Reunions, 36th and Broadway, Kansas City MO 64111. Publication is limited to one time per calendar year

AIR FORCE

September

75th Bomb Sqdn., 42nd Bomb Gp. (M)—Las Vegas NV—P.T. Smith, 5409 Del Rey Ave., Las Vegas NV 89102
94th Trp. Carrier Sqdn. (WW II)—Tucson AZ—Adam Parsons, 44 N. Highland Ave., Akron OH 44303
395th Signal Co. Aviation—Nashville TN—Paul Gassaway, 4409 Prescott Rd., Nashville TN 37204

October

1st & 2nd Staffs, 14th AB Sqds. (Bolling Field, 1939-45)—Morningside MD—Wm. Fahr, 34 Weather Oak Hill, New Windsor NY 12550

2nd Ferrying Gp/2nd For. Trans. Gp.—Seattle WA—Ray Kuhlman, 7 Springwood Ln., Kinston NC 28501

6th AF Radio Sqd. Mobile, 140th Radio Int. Co.—Portland ME—Ferdinand D. Bondy, 28 Cooper St., S. Portland ME 04106

8th AF HS, 492nd BG (N. Pickenham, England)—Holly wood FL—Elmer W. Clarye, 2015 Victoria Ct., Los Altos CA 94022

14th FG, 48th FS—Langley AFB VA—George Olson, Elks Nat'l. Home, Bedford VA 24523

18th Air Depot Gp., H&H Sqd.—Dayton OH—Edward P. Clark, 4311 Morningside Blvd., Dayton OH 45432

20th Combat Mapping Sqd.—San Antonio TX—David W. Ecoff, Sr., 13850 Tulane St., Brookfield WI 53005

27th Ftr. Bomb Gp. Assn.—Oklahoma City OK—Lowell A. Smith, Rt. 6, Diplomat Shores, PO Box 6, Leitchfield KY 42754

27th Trp. Carrier Sqdn.—McAllen TX—Lester J. Van Winkle, 126 Riojas Dr., Kerrville TX 78028

30th Bomb Gp. (H)—San Bernardino CA—George W. Jacka, 1295 E. 34th St., San Bernardino CA 92404

31st FG, 307th FG—Orlando FL—Norman F. Rivers, 609 Marcastle Ave., Orlando FL 32807

32nd TC Sqd.—Arlington VA—Harry P. Bonnes, 10000 Blackthorn Ct., Fairfax VA 22030

38th Air Depot Rep. Sqd.—Charles A. Sukala, 808 Neponset St., Norwood ME 02062

38th BG—Anaheim CA—Harry E. Terrell, 20475 Upper Bay Dr., Santa Ana Hts. CA 92707

41st Air Depot Gp., 41st Rep. Sqd.—Miamisburg OH—Clarence (Skip) Riley, 1222 Cherokee Dr., Springfield OH 45506

41st Bomb Gp. (M) (WWII)—Las Vegas—41st Bomb. Gp. Assn., 2100 Meridian Park Blvd., Concord CA 94520

43rd Bomb Gp. Assn.—San Antonio TX—Lloyd Boren, 102 Beechwood, Universal City TX 78148

49th, 374th Svc. Sqds., 36th Hdq., 5th AF—San Antonio TX—Keith Derks, 11004 Military Club Rd., Kansas City MO 64138

62nd Trp. Carrier Gp.—San Antonio TX—George Miller, 29460 No Le Haze, Boerne TX 78006

68th Air Svc. Gp. (China, WW II)—McAllen TX—Bob Pierce, PO Box 15061, Denver CO 80215

84th Svc. Gp.—Dallas TX—William E. Nelson, PO Box 373, Kingston OK 73439.

92nd BG Tampa FL—Sheldon W. Kirsner, 2603 Cathedral Dr., St. Louis MO 63129.
93rd FS—King of Prussia PA—Dayno W. Weaver, 462 Driscoll Dr., Bricktown NJ 08724.
97th Bomb Wing (M)—El Paso TX—Paul Johns, 11273 Ivanhoe, El Paso TX 79936
252nd, 1385th MP Cos.—R.T. (Curly) Burton, Rt. 2, PO Box 247, Shawnee OK 74801.
301st BG (H), 32nd BG—Las Vegas NV—Thomas Moore, 4217 Delmonte Ave., Las Vegas NV 89102
305th BG, 323rd Svc. Sqd.—Youngstown OH—Joseph A. Carlini, 864 Pearson Cir. Unit #1, Youngstown OH 44512
314 TC Gp., 50th TC Gp.—Orlando FL—Bob Bramble, Rt. 2, PO Box 131-4A9, Trinity TX 75862
320th BG, Hdq., 441st, 442nd, 443rd, 444th Sqds.—Hartford CT—Stu Rowan, 108 Aspen, Hereford TX 79045
329th Svc. Gp., 342nd Air Svc. Sqd.—Dayton OH—John D. Berry, 11118 Ballet, San Antonio TX 78216
342nd Ftr. Sqd.—Fort Worth TX—C.F. Whistler, 6400 Independence #3408, Plano TX 75023
353rd Fighter Gp.—Hollywood FL—Charles Graham, 1625 Eye St., NW, RM 123, Washington DC 20006-3098
367th FG Assn.—Washington DC—Jack T. Curtis, 437 Cedar Dr., Beaver Shores, Rogers AR 72756
375th TC Gp., Hdq., 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th Sqds.—Colorado Springs CO—William J. Maloney, 1440 Dorchester Rd., Havertown PA 19083
379th BG—New Orleans—Bill Barrett, 170 Pinewood Dr. Shidell LA 70458
386th BG—Tampa FL—E.R. O'Neill, Jr., 2450 Somerset Apt. 201, Troy MI 48064
390th BG, 30th Sta. Comp. Sqd.—Arlington VA—John Hammond, 7300 Ritchie Hwy., Suite 108, Glen Burnie MD 21061
390th Bomb Gp. Veterans Assn.—Washington DC—John Quinn, 5257 Woodmere Fairway, Scottsdale AZ 85253
391st BG—Austin TX—Edward Thorn, 4535 Jett Dr., NW, Atlanta GA 30327
401st Bomb Gp. (H)—Savannah GA—Ralph W. Trout, PO Box 22044, Tampa FL 33622
402nd Ftr. Sqd.—San Francisco—Emil Mutchler, 3403 E. Main St. 2226, Mesa AZ 85203
403rd TC Gp., 64th TC Sqd.—Greensboro NC—Joseph Beninati, 106th N. 7th St., New Hyde Park NY 11040
420th Air Refueling Sqd.—San Antonio TX—D.A. Curto, 11211 Whispering Wind, San Antonio TX 78230
437th Signal Bn. (Avn.)—Harrisburg PA—James Leach, 527 Walnut St., Lemoyne PA 17043
437th Trp. Carrier Gp. Assn.—Williamsburg VA—Bob Maycan, 360 Walker Ave., Greenacres City FL 33463
439th TC Gp., 91st Sqd.—Fort Worth TX—Milton Dank, 1022 Serpentine Ln., Wyncote PA 19095
454th Bomb Gp.—Dayton OH—Ralph Branstetter, PO Box 678, Wheat Ridge CO 80034
461st Air Svc. Sqdn.—South Bend IN—Robert Mercel, 159 Trionfo Ave., North Port FL 33596
482nd Bomb Gp. (Alconbury, England, WW II)—Hollywood FL—Dennis Scanlan, One Scanlan Plaza, St. Paul MN 55107
486th Bomb Gp. Assn.—Hollywood FL—Robert Nolan, 2676 Augusta Dr., N. Clearwater FL 34619
509th Comp. Gp. (VH)—Stanley H. Zahn PO Box 31101, St. Louis MO 63131
618th AC&W Sqdn.—Bill Silvers, 1000 S. Woodlawn #1004, Wichita KS 67218
782nd Bomb Sqd. Assn.—Harlingen TX—William F. Bruce, Jr., 1683 Eggert Rd., Eggertsville NY 14226
801st/492nd Bomb Gp.—Hollywood FL—Sebastian H. Carriere, 4939 N. 89th St., Milwaukee WI 53225
868th Bomb Sqdn. (H) & 63rd Bomb Sqdn (H)—San Diego CA—V.D. Splane, 2676 Blanding Blvd., Midleburg FL 32068
4397th Air Refueling Wing (TNG) (SAC)—Seguin TX—Arlene Christmas, 602 E. Langley Blvd., Universal City TX 78148
7531 ABRON—Sacramento CA—Donald R. Linderman, 7558 Debutante Ln., Sacramento CA 95828
Army Air Corps Enlisted Pilots Assn.—Sacramento CA—Donald E. Sturdevant, 3805 Arborlawn Dr., Fort Worth TX 78109
Second Schweinfurt Memorial Assn.—Las Vegas NV—Herman E. Molen, 4299 Calmesa St., Las Vegas NV 89115.

ALL BRANCHES

October
Ranch Hand-Vietnam Fort Walton Beach FL—Jack Spey, 850 Tarpon, Ft. Walton Beach FL 35428
U.S. Troopships (WW II)—Kings Point NY—David Ficken, United States Merchant Marine Academy, Kings Point NY 11024

ARMY

September
26th Rgt. Band—Buffalo NY—Deforest Bowman, Rt. 2, POB 66, Westfield WI 53964
31st Inf. Div., 106th Med. Bn.—Hattiesburg MS—Warren Barnett, 207 Tanglewood Dr., Carriere MS 39426
32nd Sig. Const. (WW II)—Lexington KY—Bob Spraker, 7616 Topside Rd., Knoxville TN 37920
102nd A.A. B.B. BTRY. (WW II)—South Fallsburg NY—Wilham Slattery, 99 Ravenhurst Ave., Staten Island NY 10310
103rd A.A. B.B. Btry. (WW II)—South Fallsburg NY—Mildred Roitman, 16A Lakeview Ave., Leonia NJ 07605
103rd Inf. Div., 384th FA. C Btry. (WW II)—Joliet IL—Bill Perzyhyski, 1913 N. Hickory St., Crest Hill IL 60435
185th Rgt. Anti-Tank Co. (WW II)—Fresno CA—Melvin Craghead, 7182 W. Belmont Ave., Fresno CA 93711
556th AAA (AW) Bn. (WW II)—Westlake OH—H.E. LaShorn, 3516 Williams Dr., Weirton WV 26062
658th Amphib. Trac. Bn.—Newaygo MI—Mike Cavanaugh, 516 Front St., Newaygo MI 49337
759th Tank Bn.—Nanticoke CT—Paul McCormick, 101 Geduer St., Apt. 3W, Nyack NY 10960

continued on page 50

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REUNIONS

continued from page 49

October

2nd Div., 9th Inf. Co. B San Antonio—Steve J. Morin
86 Wagner Ave., San Antonio TX 78211
3rd Armd. Div., 36th Armd. Inf. Rgt. Co. I—Des Moines—
Herbert L. Epley, 625 Lake Road, Traverse City MI
49684
6th FA Vets. Assn.—Wilkes-Barre PA—Tom Williams,
7139 Karden Way, Orlando FL 32822
6th Ord. Co. (MM)—Sarasota FL—Charles L. Shep-
herd, 4356 Eastwood Dr., Sarasota FL 33582
7th Div. HQ & Supply Co. (WWII)—Phoenix AZ—Frank
Wilson, 8001 E. Broadway #4094, Mesa AZ 85208.
7th FA Assn.—Clearwater Beach FL—Arthur J. Olliffe,
708 4th Ave., E. New Port Richey FL 33552.
13th Armored Div., 16th AIB—Louisville KY—Miller
Hanly, 3702 Pennsylvania Ave., Charleston WV
25302
13th Armd. Div., 93rd Armd. Cav. Recon. Sqd.—Pitts-
burgh PA—Anthony T. Jeletic, 3324 Rigel Ave.,
Pittsburgh PA 15212
13th CA—Nashville TN—Philip W. Stroupe, 5550
Knight Arnold Rd., Memphis TN 38115
16th Med. Rgt.—Boston—Floyd Wittingham, 1637
Walnut Ave., La Puente CA 91744
17th Port TC (WWII)—Longbeach CA—Louis Schirm,
22626 Ellinwood Dr., Torrance CA 90505.
20th FA Bn. Assn.—Atlanta GA—William R. Pilcher,
4127 Newnan Rd., Griffin GA 30223
25th Div. Assn.—Washington—Robert L. Muzzy, 809
Forston Dr., Takoma Park MD 20912
27th Combat Engr. Bn.—Levittown PA—Wm Simon,
4501 New Falls Rd., Levittown PA 19056
27th Div., 102nd/152nd Engr.—Las Vegas—Norman
Sakkestad, 791 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island NY 10305
28th Gen. Hosp.—New Orleans—Floyd J. Friloux, Sr.,
PO Box 338, New Sarpy LA 70078
34th Div., Co. B., 124th Inf.—Fort Lauderdale FL—
Alfred Cerniglia, 7741 Panama St., Miramar FL
33023
33rd Machine Records Unit (Mobile)—Baltimore MD—
Fred Brown, 310 N. Whitford Rd., Exton PA 19341
35th Div., 134th Inf.—Grand Island NE—R.L. Fowler,
1619 N. 50th St., Omaha NE 68104
35th Evac. Hosp.—Frankfort KY—Martha U. Penn, 3
Fannin Court, Frankfort KY 40601
36th FA (WWII)—Charlottesville VA—Dan Tanous, 25
Knowles Rd., Watertown MA 02172
38th Div., 151st Inf., Cannon Co.—Spencer IN—Joseph
L. Mackey, Rt.1, Lawrenceville IL 62439
44th Cav. Recon. Trp.—Atlanta GA—Raymond Vogt,
Apt. 9B, 204 Jackson St., Newman GA 30263.
45th Div., 279th Rgt.—Western Hills Lodge OK—Lee
Fry, 804 N. Main, Broken Arrow OK 70412
52nd Med. Bn.—Rochester NY—Tom Burlingame, PO
Box 198, Cincinnati NY 13040
52nd Signal Bn.—Bill Rommelman, 58 Kendall Blvd.,
Oaklyn NJ 08107
60th Combat Engr. Bn.—Atlantic City NJ—John P.
Vignali, 365 Boulevard, Elmwood Park NJ 07407
62nd AAA Gun Bn.—Southern Pines NC—Al Muncz,
PO Box 773, Seven Lakes, West End NC 27376
62nd AAA. Btry. C—Albany NY—E.F. Snyder, 1
Cooper, Greenwich NY 12834
62nd Engr. (Top.) Co.—Harrisburg PA—Pearl H. Kent,
25 Center Dr., Camp Hill PA 17105.
64th Chem. Dep. Co.—Belleville IL—Norman L. Hoff,
1614 Muren Blvd., Belleville IL 62221
80th Gen. Hosp.—Sanford NC—George H. Allred, PO
Box 235, Bonlee NC 27213.
81st Div.—Raleigh NC—Warren C. Montz, 805 Main
St., LaPlace LA 70068
86th Div., 331 FA Bn., Hdq. Btry.—San Antonio TX—
Bennie Sims, 370 Grand Ave., Kewser WV 26726
87th Div. Assn.—Hollywood CA—Gladwin Pascuzzo,
374 N. Dundee Ct., Highland MI 48031
91st CML. MTR. Bn.—Singer Island FL—Gerold
Hedman, 2886 Fernley Dr., E. #7, W. Palm Beach FL
33415
97th Div., 389th FA Bn., Btry. C—Columbus OH—
Wayne R. Ulrey, 4207 Sexton Dr., Columbus OH
43228.
97th Div., 922nd FA Bn., Btry. B—New Albany IN—
Richard H. Wilson, 101 Garden Rd., Columbus OH
43214
98th Div., 389th Inf. Co. H—McLean VA—Glenn Abney,
135 Luce St., Dalzell IL 61320
101st Abn. Div., 377th Prcht. FA Bn., Btry. C—Sharon
West Middlesex PA—Ernest F. Koss, 406 Thornton
Ave., Sharon PA 16146

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104th Inf. Div.—Chester W. VA—Curran Hammond, 415 47th St. NW, Canton OH 44709
 106th AAA Bn. Batry. A (WWII)—Hopkinsville KY
 Lowe Johnson, Jr., 117 Gateway Lane, Hopkinsville KY 47240
 106th Div. Assoc.—Columbia SC—Roger M. Rutland, 6632 Arcadia Woods Road, Columbia SC 29206
 107th Evac. Hosp. (SM)—Woburn MA—Allen S. Walker, 1072 Main St., Holyoke MA 01040
 108th Evac. Hosp.—Kewanee IL—Elizabeth (Daniel) Fraser, 604 Midland Dr., Kewanee IL 61443
 112th Cav. Rgt. (WWII)—Dallas TX—Claude R. Rigsby, Rt. 1, PO Box 1341, Chandler TX 75758
 121st QM Car Co.—York PA—Harold C. Casper, 633 State St., Hamburg PA 19526
 126th-173rd FA Vets. Assn.—Milwaukee WI—Edward Kloth, PO Box 188, Medford WI 54451
 129th AAA Gun Bn.—Minneapolis—Dale E. Riley, 3119 Dupont Ave., N., Minneapolis MN 55411
 130th Inf. Officers Assn.—Williamsburg VA—Charlie Y. Talbott, Sr., 107 Cove Rd., Williamsburg VA 23185
 131st AA Gun Bn.—Cincinnati OH—William F. Powers, 6166 Ramblingridge Dr., Cincinnati OH 45247
 131st QM Truck Co.—York PA—Lloyd W. Leffler, Rt. 2, PO Box 274, York PA 17403
 134th G. Bn. (Mobile)—Charleston SC—Michael Kotula, Star Rt. PO Box 586, Albrightsville PA 18210
 135th Combat Engrs.—Scranton PA—George D. Mezadra, 2321 Ellen Ave., Baltimore MD 21234
 137th Ord. Co. (HMFA)—Columbus GA—Ben Heaton, 221 Evelyn St., Marietta GA 30060
 148th Ord. MVA Co.—Louisville KY—Jerome K. Paulson, 2903 Willis Ave., Perry IA 50220
 164th Inf. Assn.—Jerry Wilder, PO Box 1222, Willis ton ND 58801
 191st Chem. Depot Co.—Irwin PA—George Dopirak, 29 Glendale Dr., North Huntingdon PA 15642
 192nd Gen. Hosp.—Denver—Clair H. Good, 201 Edgeboro Dr., Manchester PA 17345
 194th Gen. Hosp.—Rockford IL—George Spengler, 2002 Whitehall Dr., Rockford IL 61107
 209th CA (AW) (SP) Btry. D.—Bridgeport MI—Norman Baun, 1902 W. Newport Ave., Chicago IL 60657
 243rd FA Bn.—Chicago—James R. Henderson, 5415 Wedgewood Dr., Charlotte NC 28210
 243rd Port Co.—Myrtle Beach SC—James H. Childs, 437 Elm St., Elberton GA 30635
 278th Combat Engrs., Co. B—Myrtle Beach SC—Freedman Taylor, 19 Cedar Knoll, Tuscaloosa AL 35405
 280th & 281st FA Bn.—Woodland Hills CA—Tom Cravens, 6714 Berquist Ave., Canoga Park CA 91034
 291st Sig. Mv. Constr. Co.—Savannah GA—James W. Mohr, 3470 Hwy. CC, Slinger WI 53086
 302nd Inf., Co. L—Henryville PA—Charles C. Misner, 216 Bombay Ave., Westerville OH 43081
 338th Engrs.—Clearwater FL—Earl Edward Poe, 1119 Sea Gull Lane South, St. Petersburg FL 33707
 361st Engrs. S.S. Rgt.—St. Petersburg FL—John A. Zullofi, 92 Morris Ave., Girard OH 44420
 392 AAA (WW II)—Woodside NY—John Ryan, 47-16 46th St., Woodside NY 11377
 397th AAA (AW) Bn.—Hershey PA—Edward L. Rowe, 11201 Towood Rd., Kingsville MD 21087
 400th AAA (AW) Bn. Batry. B—Ed Rau, 1025 Prune Ct., Sunnyvale CA 94087
 437th Sig. Constr. Bn. (WWII)—Samuel B. Sackman, 1310 Bridge St., New Cumberland PA 17070
 446th Engr. Base Depot Co.—York PA—Clyde Dietz, 860 Locust Grove Rd., York PA 17402
 473rd Inf., Co. L—St. Augustine FL—Emory H. Hammond, RFD 2, PO Box 349h2, St. Augustine FL 32084
 540th Combat Amphibious Engrs. Rgt. (WWII, ETO)—Nashville—Mark Carpenter, 121 Apfel Ave., Orelan PA 19075
 558th AAA (AW) Bn.—Wildwood NJ—Herman Ledger, 1931 Ruan St., Philadelphia PA 19124
 609th Ord. Base Maint. Bn.—Orlando FL—Wilbur F. Diehl, 240 D Highland Dr., Leesburg FL 32788
 610th TD Bn., Co. A—Columbus OH—Paul Simon, 3601 Elm St., Toledo OH 43608
 640th TD Bn.—Anahim CA—William (Bud) Shulman, 6522 Fairfield St., Los Angeles CA 90002
 643rd TD Bn.—John Fox, 100 6th St., Garden City Park, L.I. NY—Russell J. Littlefield, 337 Somerset Ave., Taunton MA 02780
 648th Engr. Topo. Bn. & 2773rd Eng. Repro.—Lowell MA—William Connolly, 89 Oak St., S. Weymouth MA 02190

650th Engrs. Topographic Bn. Medford OR—Frank Captain, 57 Guyon Ave., Staten Island NY 10306
 666th AAA MG Btry. (Abne.)—Huntsville AL—John Henderson, 7612 Ensley Dr., Huntsville AL 35802
 749th Tank Bn. Assn. (WW II)—Medford OR—Jean Chme, 811 Crestbrook Rd., Medford OR 97501
 750th Engr. Heavy Shop Co.—New Braunfels TX
 Alvin Achterberg, 8 Herry Ct., New Braunfels TX 78130
 753rd Tank Bn. Arlington TX—Norman W. Linhart, 13375 Easton St., Alliance OH 44601
 769th MP Bn., Co. A—Pigeon Forge TN—D.C. Scarborough, 908 Mockingbird Dr., Chattanooga TN 37412
 775th Tank Bn. Williamsburg VA—Tom Marum, 5940 Innisvale Dr., Fairfax Station VA 22039
 776th FA Bn.—Springfield IL—H.W. Manahan, 550 Royal Court, Canton IL 61520
 801st TD Bn.—Albany NY—Albert Weir, 10 Crest haven Ave., Albany NY 12205
 820th TD Bn.—Flint MI—Felix Pajas, 6458 Fenton, Dearborn Hts. MI 48127
 825th TD Bn.—Myrtle Beach SC—Louis Celentano, 400 Blatchley Ave., New Haven CT 06513
 977th FA Bn.—Abingdon VA—Mel Guerra, 260 Allen St., East Longmeadow MA 01028
 3432nd Ord. MAM Co.—Conroe TX—C.L. (Tex) Sheffield, 1700 Hazelwood, Conroe TX 77301
 Horse Soldiers—Fort Sam Houston TX—Lowell Drummond, 5704 45th Ave. S., Minneapolis MN 55417
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 U.S. Horse Cav. Assn.—San Antonio TX—John R. Hall, 741 Winfield Circle, San Antonio TX 78239

COAST GUARD

October

USS Cobb Webster Groves MO—James Watkins, R4 POB 58 Richmond MO 64085
 USS Joseph T. Dickman (APA-13) Falmouth MA
 Michael Overko, 414 Lakeshore Dr., E Falmouth MA 02535
 USS LST 794—St. Louis—W.D. Franklin, POB 2972, Texas City TX 77592
 USS Taney (CG WHEC-37)—Arlington TX—Harold Maybeck, 1508 Arbor Town Circle, #1025 Arlington TX 76011

MARINES

October

1st Arm. Amphib. Bn. (WWII)—Minneapolis—Bill LaFerriere, 4040 Perry Ave. N., Robbinsdale MN 55422
 9th Amphib. Tractor Bn.—Lake Murray OK—Hank Harvey, 1316 Camina Vega, Farmington NM 87401
 VMB 413 (WWII)—Dallas—Earl Bratton, 4N941 Crane Rd., St. Charles IL 60174
 VMF 111 (1942-44)—Dallas—Joe Leifer, 3223 N. Western Ave., Chicago IL 60618

NAVY

September

114th NCB (WWII) & 627th, 628th & 629th CBMs—Woburn, MA—Warren Bolivar, 87 Middlesex Street, Winchester MA 01890
 USS ESCAMBIA (AO-80) (WWII)—Wichita, KS—Virgil Grier, 2144 S. Everett, Wichita, KS 67213
 USS LST 263—Orlando FL—Ben J. Petrusek, 4209 James Dr., Metairie LA 70003
 USS LST 372—Champaign IL—Richard McNattin, 609 S. Victor, Champaign IL 61821
 USS LST 397—New Port Richey FL—Cecil (Otto) Morrison, 4330 S.E. 65th Ave., Portland OR 97206
 USS LST 573—Winchester VA—Aaron Zuckerman, 606 Tennessee Ave., Winchester VA 22601
 USS LST 622—Longboat Key FL—Earl J. Ambruster, 3907 Windermere Dr., Colleyville TX 76034
 USS LST 681—St. Louis—Mel Randall, 1813 Gamel Rd., Festus MO 63028

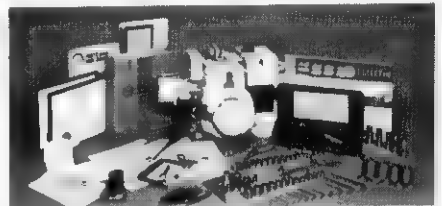
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104th Inf. Div.—Chester W VA—Curran Hammond, 415 47th St. NW, Canton OH 44709
106th AAA Bn. Btry. A (WWII)—Hopkinsville KY—Lowe Johnson, Jr., 117 Gateway Lane, Hopkinsville KY 47240.
106th Div. Assoc.—Columbia SC—Roger M Rutland, 6632 Arcadia Woods Road, Columbia SC 29206
107th Evac. Hosp. (SM)—Woburn MA—Allen S Walker, 1072 Main St., Holyoke MA 01040
108th Evac. Hosp.—Kewanee IL—Elizabeth (Daniel) Fraser, 604 Midland Dr., Kewanee IL 61443
112th Cav. Rgt. (WWII)—Dallas TX—Claude R. Rigby Rt. 1, PO Box 1341, Chandler TX 75758
121st QM Car Co.—York PA—Harold C Casper, 633 State St., Hamburg PA 19526
126th-173rd FA Vets. Assn.—Milwaukee WI—Edward Kloth, PO Box 188, Medford WI 54451
129th AAA Gun Bn.—Minneapolis—Dale E. Riley, 3119 Dupont Ave., N., Minneapolis MN 55411
130th Inf. Officers Assn.—Williamsburg VA—Charlie Y Talbott, Sr., 107 Cove Rd., Williamsburg VA 23185
131st AA Gun Bn.—Cincinnati OH—William F. Pow ers, 6166 Ramblingridge Dr., Cincinnati OH 45247.
131st QM Truck Co.—York PA—Lloyd W. Leffler, Rt. 2, PO Box 274, York PA 17403
134th Gn. Bn. (Mobile)—Charleston SC—Michael Kotula, Star Rt. PO Box 586, Albrightsville PA 18210.
135th Combat Engrs.—Scranton PA—George D. Mez zadra 2321 Ellen Ave., Baltimore MD 21234
137th Ord. Co. (HMF)—Columbus GA—Ben Heaton, 221 Evelyn St., Marietta GA 30060.
148th Ord. MVA Co.—Louisville KY—Jerome K. Paul son, 2903 Willis Ave., Perry IA 50220
164th Inf. Assn.—Jerry Wilder, PO Box 1222, Willis ton ND 58801
191st Chem. Depot Co.—Irwin PA—George Dopirak, 29 Glendale Dr., North Huntingdon PA 15642
192nd Gen. Hosp.—Denver—Clair H. Good, 201 Edge boro Dr., Manchester PA 17345
194th Gen. Hosp.—Rockford IL—George Spengler, 2002 Whitehall Dr., Rockford IL 61107
209th CA (AW) (SP) Btry. D—Bridgeport MI—Norman Baun, 1902 W. Newport Ave., Chicago IL 60657
243rd FA Bn.—Chicago—James R. Henderson, 5415 Wedgewood Dr., Charlotte NC 28210
243rd Port Co.—Myrtle Beach SC—James H. Childs, 437 Elm St., Elberton GA 30635
278th Combat Engrs., Co. B—Myrtle Beach SC—Freed man Taylor, 19 Cedar Knoll, Tuscaloosa AL 35405
280th & 281st FA Bn.—Woodland Hills CA—Tom Cravens, 6714 Berquist Ave., Canoga Park CA 91034
281st Sig. Hq. Constr. Co.—Savannah GA—James W. Mohr, 3470 Hwy. CC, Slinger WI 53086.
302nd Inf., Co. L—Henryville PA—Charles C. Misner 216 Bombay Ave., Westerville OH 43081
338th Engrs.—Clearwater FL—Earl Edward Poe, 1119 Sea Gull Lane South, St. Petersburg FL 33707
361st Engrs. S.S. Rgt.—St. Petersburg FL—John A. Zuofli, 92 Morris Ave., Grand OH 44420
392 AAA (WW II)—Woodside NY—John Ryan, 47-16 46th St., Woodside NY 11377
397th AAA (AW) Bn.—Hershey PA—Edward L. Rowe, 11201 Toward Rd., Kingsville MD 21087
400th AAA (AW) Bn. Btry. B—Ed Rau, 1025 Prune Ct Sunnyvale CA 94087
437th Sig. Constr. Bn. (WWII)—Samuel B. Sackman, 1310 Bridge St., New Cumberland PA 17070.
446th Engr. Base Depot Co.—York PA—Clyde Dietz, 860 Locust Grove Rd., York PA 17402.
473rd Inf., Co. L—St. Augustine FL—Emory H. Ham mond, RFD 2, PO Box 349h2, St. Augustine FL 32084
540th Combat Amphibious Engrs. Rgt. (WWII, ETO)—Nashville—Mark Carpenter, 121 Apel Ave., Orelana PA 19075
559th AAA (AW) Bn.—Wildwood NJ—Herman Ledger, 1931 Ruan St., Philadelphia PA 19124.
609th Ord. Base Maint. Bn.—Orlando FL—Wilbur F. Diehl, 240-D Highland Dr., Leesburg FL 32788
610th TD Bn., Co. A—Columbus OH—Paul Simon, 3601 Elm St., Toledo OH 43608
640th TD Bn.—Anaheim CA—William (Bud) Shul man, 6522 Fairfield St., Los Angeles CA 90002
643rd TD Bn.—John Fox, 100 6th St., Garden City Park, L.I. NY—Russell J. Littlefield, 337 Somerset Ave., Taunton MA 02780
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USS Joseph T. Dickman (APA-13)—Falmouth MA—Michael Overko, 414 Lakeshore Dr. E. Falmouth MA 02536
USS LST 794—St. Louis WD Franklin, POB 2972, Texas City TX 77592
USS Taney (CG WHEC-37)—Arlington TX—Harold Maybeck, 1508 Arbor Town Circle, #1025 Arlington TX 76011

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9th Amphib. Tractor Bn.—Lake Murray OK—Hank Harvey, 1316 Camina Vega, Farmington NM 87401.
VMB 413 (WWII)—Dallas—Earl Bratton, 4N941 Crane Rd., St. Charles IL 60174
VMF 111 (1942-44)—Dallas—Joe Leifer, 3223 N. Western Ave., Chicago IL 60618

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September

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USS ESCAMBIA (AO-80) (WWII)—Wichita, KS—Virgil Grier, 2144 S. Everett, Wichita, KS 67213.
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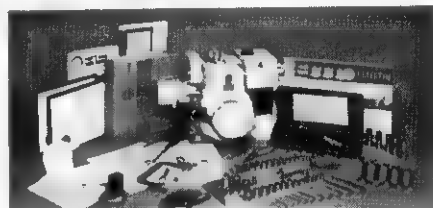
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VET VIEWS

continued from page 16

among the states. Generally, the Northeast and industrial areas of the Midwest will lose the most, while the Sunbelt will lose the fewest.

In all 50 states and the District of Columbia, veteran deaths outnumber separations from the Armed Forces. Thus, only states to which large numbers of veterans have moved will gain in the number of veterans. Only four states — Alaska, Arizona, Florida and New Mexico — are projected to show increases in their veterans between 1986 and 2000.

At present, California, with nearly 2.9 million veterans, has the largest number. Others in order are New York, 1.9 million, and Texas, 1.78 million. Others with more than a million are Pennsylvania, 1.5 million; Florida, 1.45 million; Ohio, 1.328 million; Illinois, 1.287 million, and Michigan, 1.048 million. Combined, these eight states account for nearly half the nation's veteran population.

During the next 14 years, all states will show marked increases in their population of veterans 65 or older, but the states in the Southwest and those along the Southeast coast, except Florida, are expected to show the largest increases, 90% or more.

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USS Manlove (DE-36)—Buffalo NY—Edwin Wilson, 78 E. Cavalier Dr., Buffalo NY 14227.
USS Maryland (BB-46)—Burlington MA—Wayne Ring, 1478 La Corta Circle, Lemon Grove CA 92045.
USS Norton Sound (AV-11/AVM-1)—Port Hueneme CA—Robert Hovestadt, PO Box 487, Port Hueneme CA 93041.
USS Orca (AVP-49)—Reno NV—Gene Bierckers, 128 Piney Bend, Portage IN 46368.
USS P.C. 477—Corning NY—Art Dunkelberger, 1138 Rana Villa Ave., Camp Hill PA 17011.
USS President Adams (APA-19)—Tidewater VA area—W. Bill Linder, PO Box 4006, Virginia Beach VA 23454.
USS Quillback (SS-424)—Charleston SC—Walt Brown, 10 Summit Ave., Goose Creek SC 29445.
USS Quincy—Quincy MA—Albert Levesque, 46 Foster Street, Pawtucket RI 02861.
USS Robert L. Wilson (DD-847)—Gilford, NH—Robert Arndt, 1400 SW 67 Ave., Plantation FL 33317.
USS YMS-380—Baltimore—John Hecker, 318 Whitfield, Baltimore MD 21228.
VB-5 (1943-45)—Kansas City—C.B. Spray, Rt. 6, PO Box 398, Lawrence KS 66046.
VC-4—Atlantic City NJ—Tom Kearney, PO Box 1009, Kingston NY 12401.
VC-78—Seattle WA—Earl Homman, 4220 Old Mill Rd., Lancaster OH 43130.
USS Vincennes (CL-64)—Buffalo NY—James R. Thomas, 34 Lakeview Ave., Holbrook MA 02343.
VP-2—NAS Whidbey Island WA—Frank Hart, Rt. 4, PO Box 54A-1, Cle Elum WA 98922.
VP-11(F), VP-54, VP-51, VB-101, PATSU 1-2, VPB-101—Minneapolis—D.E. Hatcher, 8018 N. 47th Ave., New Hope MN 55428.
VP-33/VB-107/VPB-107—Pensacola FL—F.O. Brooks, 1809 N. 58th Ave., Pensacola FL 32506.
VS-55—Colorado Springs CO—Bob Croman, 5014 Elberta Ave., Canton OH 44709.
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3rd Special NCB—Tampa FL—James R. Moore, 602 Cedarwood Rd., Holiday FL 33590.
17th NCB—Oxford CA—Michael J. Meade, PO Box 1, Raub IN 47976.
25th NCB—Pensacola FL—George S. Will, 5201 Rockhill Rd., Kansas City MO 64110.
47th NCB—New Orleans—Walter J. Holmes, 3512 Veronica Dr., Chalmette LA 70043.
53rd NCB, Co. A—St. Augustine FL—Tom Sares, Rt. 2, PO Box 1153, Callahan FL 32011.
57th NCB—Raleigh NC—John T. Bradsher, 522 Clayton Ave., Roxboro NC 27573.
60th NCB—Santa Clara Valley CA—Pat Maher, 16584 Cawell St., San Leandro CA 94578.
85th NCB—San Antonio TX—Fred L. Davis, Rt. 3, PO Box 30-D, Liberty Hill TX 78642.
93rd NCB—Cocoa Beach FL—Joe Wickham, 1780 Highland Ave., Melbourne FL 32935.
95th NCB—Gulfport MS—Hebert Hall, 3866 Governor's Dr., Apt. M 338 Montgomery AL 36111.
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USS Appalachian—Reno NV—Curly Blodgett, Rt. 1, PO Box 216, Mt. Vernon OR 97865.

USS Astoria—Mankato MN—Earl F. Henderson, PO Box 107, St. James MN 56081.
USS Brush (DD-745)—Nashville TN—Quenton A. Miller, Jr., 309 Fayette Davis Ave., Cleveland MS 38732.
USS Butler (DD-636/DMS-29)—Cleveland TN—Bill Ewing, PO Box 3782, Cleveland TN 37311.
USS Cape Esperance (CVE-98)—Bellingham WA—N.L. Kerr, 4063 Northwest Ave., Bellingham WA 98226.
USS Capps (DD-550)—Virginia Beach VA—Robert W. Sperling, 4691 W. 4365 South, Salt Lake City UT 84120.
USS Chevalier (DD-451)—San Antonio TX—Kurt W. Bocian, 24853 96th Ave., S. #1, Kent WA 98031-4802.
USS Consolation (AH-15)—Norfolk VA—Dr. Thomas C. Deas, 421 Wister Rd., Wynnewood PA 19096-1808.
USS Cony (DD-508/DDE-508)—Portland ME—Bill Skillings, PO Box 146, Orr's Island ME 04066.
USS Corson (AVP-37)—Albuquerque NM—Leroy Casey, 8910 Douglas Dr., Charlotte NC 28202.
USS Crowley—Dearborn MI—Charles LaNoue, 15615 Harrison, Allen Park MI 48101.
USS Edison (DD-439)—Kissimmee FL—Larry Whetstone, 8083 Haviland Rd., Linden MI 48451.
USS Ellyson (DD-454/DMS-19)—Norfolk VA—James R. Galbreth, 8927 Carriage Ln., Indianapolis IN 46256.
USS Foss (DE-59)—Ft. Lauderdale FL—Robert M. Allen, 200 N.W. 22nd St., Ft. Lauderdale FL 33311.
USS Frybarger (DE-705)—Myrtle Beach SC—Alex W. Boyd, Jr., 5107 Bryce Ln., Richmond VA 23224.
USS Gilbert Islands (CVE-107)—Andrew Syka, 1111 W. Iowa Ave., Sunnyvale CA 94086.
USS Hale (DD-642)—Virginia Beach VA—John Matousch, 717 E. Greenman Rd., Haddonfield NJ 08033.
USS Hank (DD-702)—Murrells Inlet SC—Paul K. Zimmer, PO Box 858, Murrells Inlet SC 29576.
USS Haven (AH-12)—Reno NV—Joe Messina, 1680 Oak Vista Ave., Chico CA 95926.
USS Hesperia (AKS-13)—St. Petersburg FL—Harold Curry, 1300 62nd Terr. S., St. Petersburg FL 33705.
USS Hilary P. Jones (DD-6427)—San Diego CA—Vernon Shiver, 1655 W. Ajo Way Sp. 620, Tucson AZ 85713.
USS Hombro (YTB 506)—St. Louis—W. (Sparky) Deterrman, 17 Mimosa, RR 2, East Alton IL 62024.
USS Honolulu (CL-48)—Huntsville AL—David Brown, 2302 Redfern St., S.W., Huntsville AL 35805.
USS Hyman (DD-732)—Phoenix AZ—Junior G. Sherrill, 112 LaCienega Ave., Goodyear AZ 85338.
USS Jeffers (DD-621/DMS-271)—Whitehall PA—Warren Hilton, 209 S. Hall St., Morrison IL 61270.
USS Johnson (DD-55)—USS Hoel (DD-533)—Arlington TX—R.M. Billie, Rt. 7, PO Box 655, Alexandria MN 56308.
USS Kitkun Bay (CVE-71)—Lexington KY—Frank Wheeler, POB 115, Turners Station KY 40075.
USS LCT Flotillas 4, 5, 7, 15, 16, 21, 23—Annapolis MD—Frank Hatton, Rt. 3, Danwood Dr., Delmar MD 21875.
USS LST 292—Orlando FL—L.W. Brown, PO Box 26, Starkville MS 39759.
USS LSTs 313, 286—New Orleans—Ralph Adams, 780 Amana 1508, Honolulu HI 96814.
USS LST 325—New Orleans—Richard Scaccherri, 6 Nutting Pl., West Caldwell NJ 07006.
USS LST 380—Seven Lakes, West End NC—Bob Doerr, 107 Joseph Ct., Barlett IL 60103.
USS LST 454—Tony Giglio, 784 Riverbend Dr., Clark NJ 07066.
USS LST 778—Apache Junction AZ—Charles M. Crane, 2084 W. Greasewood, Apache Junction AZ 85220.
USS Major (DE-796)—Norfolk VA—Carl F. Spencer, 2931 26th St., Columbus IN 47203.
USS Manning (DE-199)—San Diego CA—Joseph Apple, 8071 Ellis Ave., Huntington Beach CA 92646.
USS Metcalf (DD-595)—Honolulu—John Chittum, 350 S. Walnut St., Huntington WV 25705.
USS Morris (DD-417)—Peoria IL—Tom Traweck, 8605 Queensmere Pl., #5, Richmond VA 23229.
USS Munargo (AP-20)—French Lick IN—Pete Stout, 9676 Gallop Ln., St. Louis MO 63126.
USS New Jersey (BB-62)—Indianapolis—Russell E. Brown, 1414 S. Western Ave., Champaign IL 61821.
USS New Orleans (CA-32)—Orlando FL—Butch Davis, 3191 S. 1725, W., West Valley City UT 84119.

USS Nicholas (DD-449)—Jackson MS—Jack Stuart, PO Box 428, Morton MS 39117.
USS Northampton (CA-26)—Atlanta—Dick Lynott, PO Box 158, Duluth GA 30136.
USS Omaha (CL-4)—New Orleans—Frank L. Vito, 1409 Indiana NE, Albuquerque NM 87110.
USS Ontario (AT-13)/USS Kingfisher, Naval Sta., Tutuila, Am. Samoa—Yuma AZ—James L. Tell, 13442 E. 42nd Dr., Yuma AZ 85368.
USS St. Paul (CA-73)—Clearwater Beach FL—Bill Shaw, Lot 214, 2112 Belle Chasse Hwy., Gretna LA 70053.
USS Paul Hamilton (DD-590)/USS Twiggs (DD-591)—Orlando FL—Walt Tucker, 2437 Two Oaks Dr., Charleston SC 29407.
USS PC-567—Sarasota FL—Jim Morgan, 3700 38th St., North, St. Petersburg FL 33713.
USS Pensacola (CA-24)—Las Vegas NV—C.J. Tibado, PO Box 425, Wofford Hts. CA 93285.
USS Phelps (DD-360)—Charleston SC—Harold Placette, 3336 Roanoke, Port Arthur TX 77642.
USS Plunkett (DD-431)—San Diego CA—George Schwelch, 18 Spruce Dr., Marshallton, Rd. 4, West Chester PA 19382.
USS Ramapo (AO-12)—Orlando FL—Ken Schwabenton, 2320 N.E. 34th Ct., Lighthouse Pt. FL 33064.
USS Register (APD-92/DE-23)—Norfolk VA—Charles Troup, 2521 N. Lake Mitchell Dr., Cadillac MI 49601.
USS Remey (DD-688)—Baltimore—William A. Hackney, 211 W. 10th Ave., Baltimore MD 21225.
USS Rheas (AMS-52), YMS 299—Jacksonville FL—Judy Molina, 7534 Altas Dr., Jacksonville FL 32211.
USS Ringgold (DD-500)—Columbus OH—Bob Irwin, RFD 3, PO Box 92, Glouster OH 45732.
USS St. Lo (CVE-63)/VC-65—San Diego CA—E.H. Crawford, 1910 Windsor Way, Reno NV 89503.
USS Talamanca (AF-15)—Nashville TN—Jerry W. Case, 325 Townsite Circle, S. Pittsburg TN 37380.
USS Uvalde (AKA-88)—Uvalde TX—Jim Cunningham, 1909 Tipton Ter., Columbia MO 65203.
USS Wharton (AP-7)—Reno NV—George Howlett, 110 Central Ave., Malden MA 02148.
USS Woodford (AKA-86)—Ellsworth ME—Gordon R. Heath, RFD 1, Ellsworth ME 04605.
USS Yorktown (CV-5)—Daytona Beach FL—Bob Good, PO Box 1187, Thonotosassa FL 33592.
USS Yorktown (CV-10)—Charleston SC—Joe Sharky, PO Box 1021, St., Mt. Pleasant SC 29464.
USS Zellars (DD-777)—Houston TX—Duane E. Warner, 420 Palomino Lane, League City TX 77573.
VF-173—Jacksonville FL—Jack Stone, 1523 Columbian, Elkhart IN 46514.
VO-VCS/VN 14—Orange Park FL—L.J. Wagner, EL Captain M.H.P. #10, 12939 Indian River Dr., Sebastian FL 32958.
VP 14, VB 102, VPB 102—Washington—Allan R. Dresner, 7026, Wyndale St., NW, Washington DC 20015.
VP 44—San Diego CA—G.S. Bogart, 3009 Stevenson Dr., Pebble Beach CA 93953.
VP/VPB 54—Reno NV—R.A. Teubert, 20462 Running Springs, Huntington Beach CA 92646.

SEEKING

USS Walter B. Cobb APD-106—Reunion?—James Plough, Rt. 1 Box 89, Lynnwood Heights, Jefferson City TN 37760.
907 QM Det. (Greenwood AFB, 1942-44)—Eugene Shea, 2431 Stewart Dr., Bismarck ND 58501.
262 QM Bakery Co.—Reunion?—Harold Knutson, 717 Queen Anne, Woodstock IL 60098.
SSS Field Photo. Branch (ETO, WWII)—Seeking Virgil Keffer—Carl Phelps, POB 479, Haileyville OK 74546.
USS Electra AKA-4—Reunion?—Wayland Marders, 12021 Vale Rd., Oakton VA 22124.
USS LSM 203 (1944-45)—R.J. Schnadelbach, 232 Alida St., Clarksdale MS 38614.
USS LSM 3—Seeking E.A. Jones (NY) & John Zawada (OH)—Lynde Burkhardt, 56376 Basswood Rd., Mishawaka IN 46545.
594th JASCO—Reunion?—Homer Grunz, 6013 5th Ave. S., Minneapolis MN 55419.
USS Independence CVA-62 (1959-63)—Reunion?—John Geddis, 80 Titus Ave., Lawrenceville NJ 08648.

QUESTION

Assistant Secretary Shasteen was recently quoted as saying that "in my judgment not a single state is in compliance with Title 38 United States Code" that requires establishment of definitive performance standards for determining compliance by the state public employment service agencies in the provision of priority services to veterans. What has the Department of Labor done to insure that states are not abusing or restricting the activities of Disabled Veteran Outreach Personnel and Local Veteran Employment Representatives? What is the Department of Labor doing to enforce state compliance with the law?

ANSWER

Through both the Employment and Training Administration and the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, each state public employment service agency or Job Service is required to maintain a reporting system to collect and report data on that agency's activities. Such reports include data on all services provided to both veterans and non-veterans as well as separate reports from which we can identify activities performed and determine time spent in providing services to veterans by Local Veterans' Employment Representatives and Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program specialists. Each program year, our state directors for the Veterans' Employment and Training Service negotiate with the state agencies to establish performance criteria for certain of these services to serve as the required performance standards.

During the program year, the state directors monitor and evaluate the overall statewide performance by on-site local office visits and data review. According to the variance from the standards, it may be necessary for corrective actions to be taken. Also, performance of the state

agencies is measured against the requirements of the grant agreements for funding the Local Veterans' Employment Representatives and Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program specialists. If performance at the end of the reporting period is determined to be less than adequate, the states have an opportunity to show "good cause," and if still out of compliance, remedial actions can be enforced. The most severe remedial action, of course, is to require paying back funds. To date, we have required some states to correct mischarges against their grants, but we have never had to withhold funds from the state agencies.

QUESTION

Are there programs that will increase small business participation in veterans' employment and training, especially programs designed for veterans who are not job ready?

ANSWER

On-the-job training remains a standard component in many grants under Title IV-C of the Job Training Partnership Act and is utilized primarily by small businesses. This program works exceptionally well for those veterans who are not job ready. We also recently funded, with the Small Business Administration, an entrepreneurship training program in South Carolina for veterans who seek self-employment. If successful, we will encourage more programs of this nature across the country. Another activity which involves a great many small employers is the program conducted under the Veterans' Job Training Act. According to a study conducted for the Veterans Administration, more than three-fourths of the participating employers had fewer than 50 employees. Small business participation is expected to continue under the newly extended program.

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